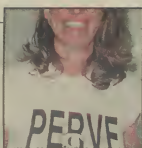


A 'tri-partisan' effort on ENDA
Dems, GOP, lone independent re-
introduce anti-discrimination bill.
page 14

Sexual freedom issues
NCSF reaches out at
San Francisco meeting.
page 12



Mickey Mouse career?
Disney exec Thomas Schumacher
is openly gay and on the rise.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 31 • 2 August 2001

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971



Rock Gernhar

Hot fun in the SOMAtime

San Francisco's South of Market District was smokin' last weekend as the leather community and friends enjoyed the 18th annual Up Your Alley street fair, also known as the Dore Alley Fair, which is a precursor to the Folsom Street Fair. About 13,000 people attended the Sunday, July 29 event. The day before, on Saturday, July 28, SOMA's Eagle bar, above, was overflowing as nearly 100 of the over 200 winners of the hugely popular Bare Chest Calendar attended the first-ever reunion. Awards were distributed, memories were shared, chests were compared, and dates were made at the afternoon event.

Smith wins legal victory

by Ed Walsh

Shannon Minter's hands trembled slightly and a subtle apprehensive tone in his voice betrayed that he was no doubt fully cognizant that a potential ground-breaking ruling on the rights of gay couples rested on the strength or weakness of his arguments.



Sharon Smith

It was nearly 11:30 a.m. on Friday, July 27, in the courtroom of San Francisco Superior Court Judge A. James Robertson II. Minter, an attorney with the National Center for Lesbian Rights, was representing Sharon Smith in the wrongful death lawsuit against the caretakers of the two dogs involved in the fatal dog mauling of Smith's partner, Diane Whipple. Smith, her attorneys, and a small group of supporters had been waiting patiently in the courtroom for two hours while the judge heard other cases. Now it was their turn.

Minter clearly and concisely detailed his arguments to Robertson. At stake: Robertson's decision whether the wrongful death case could go forward despite state law that gives that right only to a surviving married spouse.

Minter told Robertson that gay couples are presented with an "insurmountable barrier" to equal protection under the California Constitution.

"There's nothing Sharon or Diane could have done to get themselves under this statute," Minter argued, referring to the state law governing wrongful death lawsuits.

The dogs' caretakers, Robert Noel and Marjorie Knoller, represented themselves in the proceeding through court filings. They did not attend the proceeding because it conflicted with a hearing held at the same time in criminal court. In court papers, the attorney couple argued that the lawsuit was a sham and should be thrown out because it violated the criteria for who is considered a legal spouse.

At the conclusion of about 15 minutes of arguments, Robertson unceremoniously ruled from the bench.

"Motion to strike overruled," he declared. Robertson instructed Minter to draw up the appropriate paperwork and moved on to the next case. What followed was an outpouring of emotion rarely seen in civil court procedural hearings.

Minter returned to the observer seating area. As he glanced at Smith, a look of relief and shock gave way to a broad smile. Smith stood up in tears and hugged him.

"This is a remarkable day," Minter told reporters outside the courtroom. "This is the first decision of this kind. Not just in California but anywhere in this country. This is

page 15 ►

Major gay/bi Latino study seeks links between health & heroes

by David Fraser

"Comparte TU historia
Share YOUR story"

With this theme, researchers at San Francisco State University are beginning a major study to look at the gay and bisexual Latino community, activism, sexual risk behavior, and HIV/AIDS.

Among the key ideas driving the study is the notion of recording the life stories of "heroes" who have served in various ways to help the queer Latino community deal with HIV and health issues.

The five-year study is titled "2 Comunidades: El Estudio de la Comunidad Latina Gay en Chicago y San Francisco" (2 Communities: A Study of the Gay Latino Community of Chicago and San Francisco). It is a

research project of the University of Illinois at Chicago, and is funded by the National Institute of Mental Health.

According to J. Antonio Aguilar, one of the San Francisco project coordinators, the study will begin recruiting in mid-August for a pool of 40 self-identified gay or bisexual Latino men here. A similar number will be sought in Chicago.

Ultimately the study will involve 300 gay and bisexual Latino men in each city, who will be recruited with the help of local community-based organizations.

The study will be coordinated locally by SFSU's Center for Community Research, whose offices are in the heart of the Mission District at 16th and Mission streets.

Rafael Diaz, Ph.D., director of the center and a co-principal investigator, told the Bay Area Reporter in an interview that "Dos Comunidades" will be the first-ever study to focus on questions of strength and resiliency among the gay Latino community."

Community groups are crucial, said Diaz, who is also a professor at SFSU. "They remain the true agents of social change. Through them, we plan to document strengths in the community, and eventually develop programs."

Activism and Freire

Getting the life stories of local "heroes" or key players in community wellness efforts is critical, Diaz said, and the first part of the study will include interviews with key orga-



Professor Rafael Diaz

Rock Gernhar

nizations and leaders "to see how activism can lead to liberation."

Underpinning the study is the work of Brazilian educator, activist, and philosopher Paulo Freire, who developed a compassionate, activist approach to social change centered on what he called the "Pedagogy of the Oppressed."

Freire, who died in 1996, left a major legacy that has shaped struggles for many, Diaz noted at a press conference on Friday, July 27, held to introduce the study.

Remembrances elsewhere of Freire recalled his struggle for a world that he called in Por-

tuguese "menos feio, menos malvado, menos desumano" or less ugly, less cruel, less inhumane.

"Living from the perspective of love and hope, [Freire] also leaves us a legacy of indignation about injustice, which he used to say we could not speak about with sugar-coated words," wrote two colleagues at the Paulo Freire Institute after his death.

Community as protection?

Overall, one of the Dos Comunidades study's main goals is to investigate the protective effects of community involvement in HIV/AIDS-related groups and organizations for HIV sexual risk behavior among Latino men who identify as gay or bisexual.

The principal investigator in the study is Dr. Jesus Ramirez-Valles of the University of Illinois-Chicago's School of Public Health, who is

page 15 ►

INSIDE

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| BAR Talk | 38 |
| Classifieds | 19 |
| Lavender Tube | 33 |
| Lesbian Notions | 10 |
| Mailstrom | 7 |
| Mister Marcus | 34 |
| Obituaries | 17 |
| Open Forum | 6 |
| Our Man Friday | 9 |
| Out There | 26 |
| Out & About | 36 |
| Past Out | 11 |
| Personals | 41 |
| Sports Complex | 18 |

FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS

All Our Families sees opportunity in tax refunds

by David Fraser

If you're getting a federal income tax refund and you're wondering what to spend it on, a local nonprofit thinks you could spend it on them and send a pro-LGBT message to President Bush, all at the same time.

Cheryl Deaner, executive director of All Our Families Coalition, is eager to suggest an alternative to spending your dollars at the local megastore.

"It is an insult to our intelligence that President Bush thinks he can buy the American public with these checks," Deaner said. "We are happy to present an alternative."

She suggests endorsing your check to AOF, a San Francisco-based group that helps promote the civil rights and well-being of families with LGBT members.

"Send it to AOF and we'll send you a letter for your tax-deductible donation and send you the following postcard, which we hope you will send to President Bush:

"Dear President Bush:

Thank you for the tax refund check. I donated it to an organization fighting to protect the rights of families with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender members.

"Just as you and Laura value Jenna and Barbara, I value my

family. But unlike your family, mine is denied basic legal recognition and protections by the government that you lead. All Our Families Coalition in San Francisco is working to change that, and the government's generous refund will go a long way toward helping.

"All the best."

Deaner told the *Bay Area Reporter* that money raised by AOF will be used to help provide free services once the group moves into the new Community Center Project later this year.

"We're moving into the community center and will be providing free programming and services relating to things that other families take for granted," Deaner said. Planned services include such things as legal seminars for LGBT families and workshops on registering as domestic partners, Deaner explained. ▼

For more info, call (415) 681-1960 or write: AOF, 870 Market Street, Suite 421, San Francisco CA 94102. You can also e-mail Deaner at Director@allourfamilies.org, or visit the Web site: www.allourfamilies.org.

Victory Fund event this Sat.

by Cynthia Laird

The Victory Fund, a national organization whose mission is to increase the number of quality openly gay and lesbian public officials, is hosting an event this Saturday, August 4 in San Francisco.

The "poolside party" takes place from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Back Flip nightclub in the Phoenix Hotel, 601 Eddy Street at Larkin. The special guest will be Dan Baker, a candidate for mayor of Long Beach. Representatives from the Victory Fund, including its

San Francisco regional office staff, will be on hand, organizers said. The regional office, which opened in mid-April, serves 11 western states.

The event also will recognize members, sponsors, and hosts for the Victory Fund's upcoming 10th anniversary gala tribute to Harvey Milk, which is scheduled for October 13 in City Hall.

Tickets to Saturday's party are \$20 at the door. For more information, call (415) 512-1730 or e-mail west@victoryfund.org. The organization's Web site is www.victoryfund.org. ▼

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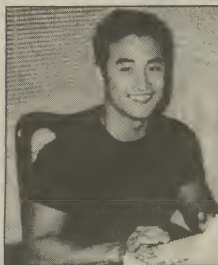
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- 12 classes from CCSF's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Studies Program
- A wide array of foreign languages classes - beginning, intermediate and conversational
- English composition, speech and creative writing classes
- Men's and Women's Health and yoga classes
- Social and Behavioral Sciences courses
- Acting, Music, Art classes
- Women's Studies courses

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|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
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| American Government | W | Jazz History, African American Trad | Sat |
| Basic Drawing | W and S | Lesbian/Gay American History | Th |
| Career Success & Life Planning | M | Lesbian/Gays in Modern America | M |
| Creative Writing-Autobiography | M or W | Lesbian/Gay Culture & Society | T |
| Creative Writing-Short Story | Th | Linguistic Anthropology | M |
| Cultural Anthropology | Th | Mandarin (Beg) Conversational | Th |
| French (Beg) Conversational | M | Men's Health Issues | Th |
| French (Elementary) 1A | T | News Writing & Reporting | Th |
| French (Elementary) 2 | M and W | Poetry for the People | Th |
| Gay & Lesbian Workplace Issues | M | Psychology, General | Th |
| Gay Male Relationships | M | Public Speaking, Basic | W |
| German, Practical, 10A | M | Queer Cinema in the 70s | W |
| German, Practical, 10C | W | Russian (Elementary) | T |
| GLB Communities of Color in US | T | Russian Literature in Translation | W |
| Guitar (Elementary) Classical | M or T | Spanish (Beginning) Conversational | T, W or Th |
| Holistic Health Practices | M | Spanish (Elementary) | M, T, W, Th or Sat |
| Homosexuality in Recent Cinema | T | University Read & Composition 1A | T, W or Sat |
| Issues in the Lesbian Community | M | University Read & Composition 1B | T |
| Italian (Advanced) Conversational | Th | Western Art History | T |
| Italian (Beginning) Conversational | W | Women and Film | Th |
| Italian (Elementary) 1A | Th or Sat | Women in the Arts | W |
| Italian (Elementary) 2A | W | Women's Health Issues | W |
| | | Yoga (Beginning) | W |

Monday through Thursday classes meet 6:30-9:30 P.M., Saturday classes meet 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. Room assignments available in the lobby of the Castro/Valencia campus during the first class meetings

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Animal cruelty
at playground

by Jane Warner

Eureka Valley Playground, 100 Collingwood, July 29, 1:30 p.m.: While children played in the Eureka Valley Playground, two men chased down three pigeons, catching them with their hands. They then allegedly wrapped rope around their necks and hung them to the top bar of the children's swing set. As the pigeons tried to fly away, the men took sticks and beat them to death as a crowd of youngsters watched. After the birds were beaten to death, the men took them and tied them to a fence near the dog run. The suspects sat next to their dead prey as if displaying hunting trophies, witnesses reported.

Several residents from Collingwood Street looked out their windows in disbelief and ran down to the park, where they confronted the men and called 911. Animal Care and Control officers were summoned and two men were arrested at the scene; a third man, who was identified only as "Roland," fled before police arrived. A dog that one of the arrested men had in his possession was confiscated by animal control officers and placed into protective custody.

Police videotaped the birds tied to the fence and took statements from witnesses; however, no motive could be established for the vicious assault on the birds.

Booked for felony animal cruelty were John Farrell, 23, and Martin Androus, 28.

T-shirt burglary

All American Boy, 463 Castro, July 25, 3:54 a.m.: A man called 911 from the pay phone at 18th and Castro after witnessing a man throw a brick at the window of All

American Boy and run off with a stack of T-shirts. Responding police found the front window of the store smashed and a brick lying in the middle of the floor, but no one was discovered inside. A few doors down, however, numerous yellow, red, gray, and blue T-shirts were found strewn about the sidewalk. Police recovered the T-shirts and returned them to the store manager who had arrived at the scene.

According to witnesses, the suspect, described only as bald and wearing dark clothing, was last seen running northbound on Castro. Police searched the area but were unable to find him.

Rustled on the street

200 block of Church, July 28, 5:15 p.m.: A man and a woman approached a man sleeping on the sidewalk and started to rummage through his pockets. The man suddenly woke up and started to struggle with his assailants, telling them to leave him alone. One of the suspects took out a canister of Mace and sprayed the victim in the face, causing him to fall to the sidewalk. As the man lay in agony, the pair continued to search through his pockets. Finding nothing of value, the two suspects walked away, leaving the man on the sidewalk.

Police soon arrived, and a witness told officers that he had seen the suspects turn the corner on Church and continue walking eastbound on Market. Police searched the area and found the pair walking on Duboce.

Booked for conspiracy, attempted robbery, and assault with

a caustic material were Janelle Kay, 48, and Barry Tun, 42.

Angry ex

2700 block of Market, July 28, 1:19 a.m.: A man reported to police that the night before, his ex-boyfriend allegedly broke into his house and suddenly appeared in his bedroom.

The ex forced him out of bed by the neck and dragged him into the living room, pushing him into a chair. The estranged beau allegedly pulled a .45 caliber handgun from his waist and told him, "Open your mouth." The

man refused but his ex pried his jaw open with his hands and forced the handgun into his mouth and then pulled the trigger. The gun "dry fired" as there were no bullets in the chamber. The suspect threatened, "I'm going to get to the bottom of this," and then left the apartment.

The man told police that he didn't report the incident at the time because he didn't want to get his ex into trouble, however, the next night the ex allegedly broke into his house again and suddenly appeared in his living room. The man called 911 immediately and the ex left without further incident.

Officers filed a report, gave the man information on obtaining a restraining order, and referred him to a domestic violence counselor. ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 679-1827.

Migden brings state money to SF programs

by Katie Szymanski

Once again, Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) brought home the bacon from Sacramento this year, securing over half a million dollars of the state's annual budget for LGBT projects statewide and in San Francisco.

Migden, who used her muscle as chair of the powerful Assembly Appropriations Committee to advocate for the local expenditures, saw her efforts pay off last Thursday, July 26, when Governor Gray Davis signed the \$100 billion fi-

nancial plan that includes funding for district-specific needs.

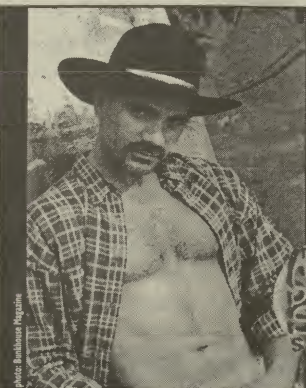
For San Francisco, this year's state budget includes \$100,000 for the University of California, San Francisco's Center for Lesbian Health Research; \$100,000 for the Horizons Foundation; and \$250,000 for the Rainbow Adult Community Housing Center.

UCSF's Center for Lesbian Health Research was formed in September 1999 after the Institute of Medicine produced a report documenting the lack of appropriate treatment and care for women who are sexual minorities. A general lack of research and

therefore knowledge about lesbian health issues has led to prejudice and discrimination within the medical field, researchers found, which translates to a significant portion of the population seeking less healthcare than their heterosexual counterparts.

The center is one of the first of its kind, and will serve all women and transgenders by conducting population-appropriate research and serving as a data bank for other institutions across the world. The state budget funds will go toward creating a pilot project to improve healthcare services by focus-

page 19 ►

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Same-sex domestic violence is national crisis, says CUAV

by David Fraser

"Robert beat me up on several occasions and finally broke my jaw. A week later, he knocked me into the wall so hard I needed stitches in my head. I got a restraining order against him the next day."

— Javier, a gay male Latino in Boston

Community United Against Violence is urging people to start coming out — against same-gender and all domestic violence.

In its fifth annual report, CUAV released the latest figures on same-gender domestic violence. Shawna Virago, CUAV's Domestic Violence Survivor Program director, said there were 4,048 reports nationwide in 2000, a 30 percent increase over 1999 partly due to better reporting. There were 691 cases of LGBT domestic violence in San Francisco



CUAV's Shawna Virago

alone. The report was compiled by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, of which CUAV is a member.

In the city, twice as many reports — 434 — came from female survivors, versus 204 from male survivors and 52 cases involving transgenders. CUAV said there were 100 cases from bisexual survivors and 80 from heterosexuals.

No tolerance for DV

"We are in a national health crisis," whether LGBT or heterosexual, said Virago at a press conference held Tuesday, July 31 to unveil the report. "We won't tolerate bashing by strangers on the streets, and we won't tolerate it in our homes."

Robin Nickel of W.O.M.A.N. Inc. said 70 percent of reported domestic violence cases came from Los Angeles and San Francisco. That's partly because Los Angeles, with 85 percent of the growth in domestic violence reported nationwide, has a state-funded program for outreach and education.

The San Francisco findings also drew on efforts by the Asian Women's Shelter. Joy Cañeda of the shelter said one key approach to dealing with domestic violence is to create informal gatherings which can act as extended families, and tailor them to different cultures and communities.

Elena Fiallo of CUAV said that in a survey of Bay Area youth, 61 percent of LGBTQQ youth reported living in an environment with domestic violence.

"It's not very different from the situation with heterosexual youth," Fiallo said, "but when it comes to the lack of services for queer youth, and the picture of their isolation, it looks very different."

Susan Breal of District Attorney Terence Hallinan's office said that one option is a relocation program to protect same-sex persons who are in danger.

Devastation

The betrayal by someone you trust can be devastating, accord-

page 18 ►

Under One Roof to host seminars on hearing loss and HIV/AIDS this month

by Cynthia Laird

Under One Roof, the non-profit retail store in the Castro that raises funds to assist people living with HIV/AIDS, will provide free hearing screenings and other resources for people with HIV/AIDS-related hearing loss starting this Sunday, August 5 and continuing on consecutive Sundays through August 19.

The National Institutes of Health have estimated that at least 75 percent of adults with HIV/AIDS have experienced or are at risk of experiencing hearing loss, tinnitus, vertigo, and speech, language, or cognitive problems.

In response to the NIH findings, Under One Roof will provide the following three events this month. All are free and open to the public and take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the store, located at 549 Castro Street, between 18th and 19th streets.

• Sunday, August 5: Free hearing screenings will be provided by Larry Eng, an audiologist from Golden Gate Hearing Services. Westone will provide free disposable earplugs which help prevent damage from loud music and noise. Last year the *Bay Area Reporter* ran an extensive series on hearing loss as it relates to dance clubs, which included the recommendation that people who frequent dance clubs wear earplugs.

• Sunday, August 12: John L. Darby, chair of the administrative committee of the California Telephone Access Program and a member of the outreach staff of CTAP, will demonstrate the free special telephone equipment and services available to people with functional limitations of hearing, speech, vision, mobility, and cognition.

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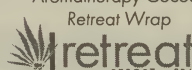
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A first-round victory

Sharon Smith, the partner of dog mauling victim Diane Whipple, didn't have state law on her side when she filed a wrongful death suit against Robert Noel and Marjorie Knoller, the husband and wife caretakers of the two dogs. The vicious January 26 attack claimed the life of Whipple, who was a popular lacrosse coach at St. Mary's College in Moraga. Smith, however, did what many surviving spouses do when their husband or wife is killed: she filed the wrongful death suit. This despite knowing that it would most likely be thrown out of court since existing law doesn't recognize the right of gay and lesbian couples to file such lawsuits.

Smith, her attorneys, and the gay community, therefore, were stunned last week when San Francisco Superior Court Judge A. James Robertson II overruled Noel and Knoller's request for dismissal of the lawsuit, allowing Smith to proceed with the civil case. (Noel and Knoller face criminal charges in the death of Whipple, and that case is also moving forward. Both remain in jail on a combined bail of \$3 million.)

Shannon Minter, a staff attorney with the National Center for Lesbian Rights, argued successfully that Smith should be allowed to move forward with her lawsuit. Minter pointed out that under the California Constitution same-sex couples are presented with what he correctly called an "insurmountable barrier" to equal protection. Since gay and lesbian couples cannot legally marry, "there's nothing Sharon or Diane could have done to get themselves under this statute," Minter argued, referring to the state law governing wrongful death lawsuits. Because of that barrier, dismissing the lawsuit would violate the state Constitution's equal protection clause.

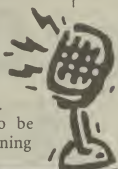
Robertson agreed with Minter's arguments and ruled that Smith has the right to sue under the California Constitution — a huge legal victory for same-sex couples. And while the case still has a long way to go and Noel has said that he plans to appeal, there's

hope that Robertson's decision will be upheld.

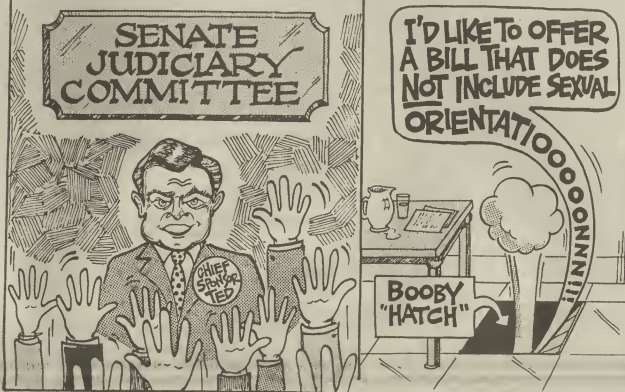
Better yet, the entire matter may soon become moot if Assemblywoman Carole Migden's AB25 becomes law. The bill expands rights for domestic partners, including the right to file civil wrongful death lawsuits just as surviving spouses in a marriage are allowed to do. AB25 was recently amended to be retroactive to January 1, 2001, meaning that if Governor Gray Davis signs the bill Smith would be covered under the law. Currently, AB25 awaits action in the Senate Appropriations Committee. It is expected to pass the Democrat-controlled Senate and has already passed in the Assembly.

Smith deserves praise for her courage. Since Whipple's horrific death earlier this year, Smith has been in the media spotlight and has used her heart-rending experience to change the law. She has testified numerous times on behalf of AB25, and has pushed ahead with the wrongful death suit, all the while continuing to mourn the tragic death of her long-time partner. Smith is taking her personal pain and trying to secure equal rights for us all. The case has been reported nationally and in the process has focused attention on the many rights that are denied to gay and lesbian couples.

While we know there are still obstacles to overcome before Smith's civil case can proceed, we look at last week's ruling as a major step forward for equality. ▼



Editorial

BI-PARTISAN PASSAGE FOR
THE HATE-CRIMES BILL...AND A PASSAGE
FOR ORRIN...

Time to help blacks with AIDS

by David Wallace

The history of the HIV epidemic in San Francisco has been well documented: the initial fear and confusion among the city's residents; the contentious debates over blood banks screening donors and as to whether or not to close the city's bathhouses; the "stepping up" of the gay community to develop services (i.e., Shanti) and institutions (i.e., the Names Project Quilt) in response to the plague. What is not so well-documented is the history of the HIV epidemic for blacks in San Francisco. One could fairly assume that with the plethora of expertise and services at San Francisco's disposal, that all communities affected by HIV/AIDS would be well served. Unfortunately, that has not been the case.

As a gay white male, I've been faced with both the "con" of having my community (i.e., the gay community) so overwhelmingly devastated by this disease; yet I also realize, and in fact realize more and more each day, I also have the "pro" of not having my community be as devastated by it as the black community has. Fortunately, finally, word is slowly getting out regarding the continuing, devastating effects AIDS continues to have on blacks: That more children with AIDS in the U.S. are black than all other ethnic groups combined. That HIV prevalence rates among black transgenders in San Francisco have been reported as high as 69 percent. That it's still the leading cause of death for black women in the U.S. How can anyone be truly proud of a country as rich as ours that allows such a thing?

Fortunately, at least according to the latest rhetoric surrounding the 20th anniversary of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's first announcement regarding HIV, a higher percentage of government funding that heretofore has simply bypassed the black community will now be distrib-

uted to help this overwhelmed, still at-risk, and difficult to reach community. Hopefully, that's not just the latest sound bite and real money will follow this rhetoric. This month, in fact, the city AIDS Office will be deciding how to distribute some \$12 million in government funding from local, state, and federal sources to provide HIV prevention services in San Francisco. (Full disclosure: I work for the Black Coalition on AIDS, and I feel we "deserve" a sizable chunk of this money.) As the only black AIDS service organization serving the entire black community, we can have a significant impact on this disease in San Francisco. Particularly from a sense of being able to spend the amount of money needed to do truly effective (i.e., culturally appropriate) social marketing campaigns that address some of the underlying social factors that contribute to the spread of HIV/AIDS among blacks.

Admittedly, it's a struggle because the black community has been reticent to take "ownership" of this disease. Thus, many people see how the gay community has been willing to take on this issue, compared to lack of comparable ownership the black community has been willing to take, and ask, "Why should we help them when they don't even seem willing to want to help themselves?" How about because it's the right thing to do?

I'm not one of those bitter old men, sitting in a rocker on a porch squawking about "the good old days" (at least not yet), but it does seem that when I was younger more people seemed to, well, actually care about "others." But now? A good example surrounds the discussion from those opposing slavery reparations. "Blah, blah, blah, why should I be forced to pay for something I wasn't responsible for?" Again, maybe be-

cause it's the right thing to do? With the same specious reasoning, I could demand that my taxes not support the military. Or schools, since I don't have kids. The point is, I would not make such an unreasonable demand because I expect society at large to help shoulder the burden of defending the country; I expect society at large to help shoulder the burden of educating the next generation. However, and apparently somewhat naively, I also expect society at large to help shoulder the "burden" of keeping everyone a productive and healthy citizen.

Is the only reason we're getting richer and richer is so that we simply can?

Maybe as a student of history, I'm worried about how we'll be perceived. People often scorn the comparison between Rome's "decadent" decline and America's

current greed bloodbath. However, it is more than a little plausible that "advanced" society is not going to look back sympathetically on our delay in providing help to a community we (and yes, I mean we) persecuted mercilessly for nearly 300 years.

San Francisco has a golden opportunity to be the leader we have been in the past. San Francisco can back up all of the recent rhetoric surrounding the needs of the black community by finally — and significantly — committing the funding that truly culturally competent agencies can use to start having an impact on this disease in the community it's hitting the hardest. One more time: it's the right thing to do. And, as a society, we will all be rewarded. ▼

David Wallace is the director of development and communications at the Black Coalition on AIDS. For information about services, call (415) 615-9945 or visit www.bcoa.org.

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Muni passage denied

On the afternoon of Sunday, July 29 at about 4 p.m. while returning from the Dore Alley Fair, I attempted to board an outbound F-line Muni train at a platform at Polk and Market streets. I was dressed in boots, shorts, and a chest harness of leather. The shorts covered as much as a pair of boxers or gym shorts.

As I dropped my quarters into the fare box, the driver said, "You can't ride the train dressed like that." I heard the words, but did not make any connection to myself. As I took a transfer from his outstretched hand, he said it again. This time I made the connection, but thought that he could not be saying what it sounded like, so I said "What?" He repeated the statement a third time and I left the train in shock and surprise. I walked a couple of blocks further up Market and boarded a Muni underground train for my home in the Castro area without further incident.

I believe that the driver's assertion was made without due consideration and indicates discrimination which may not be based on Muni's policies as a whole. If the driver was following Muni's dictates, I request a statement to that effect and a quote from the relevant document(s). If the driver was acting out of ignorance and/or prejudice, I request a formal apology and to have a reprimand entered into his records.

Eric Thornton
San Francisco

Candidates are assimilationist

For Harry Britt to condemn his opposition in the 13th Assembly race as assimilationist is like the pot calling the kettle black ("Let mudslinging begin," July 26). That the gay (now LGBT) Demo clubs and their electable candidates have never been other than assimilationist—at least from the time of their failure to oppose bathhouse closure in 1984—goes without saying. Unless one or both of these candidates is photographed cutting the ribbon at the opening of one, or even better, two proper gay bathhouses before the March 2002 primary, I recommend staying home from this election.

All the same, it's good to see Alice B. and the Milk Club at one another's throats again. That may be stronger evidence for AIDS being over than any ACT UP/SF can provide.

Reid Condit
San Francisco

Narrow definitions

There were several points of concern that I wanted to address after reading Lin Daniels letter ("Lesbian separatist responds," Mailstrom, July 5).

First, I was disturbed by your use of the term "woman born woman/female." Not only is this category transphobic, but it's also a narrow way of describing a lot of queer LBT women. Both as an activist/artist and as the Hate Violence Survivor Program director at Community United Against Violence, I feel it's really important for folks working toward social justice that women/youth always get to make the choice to self identify whenever possible. I think it's critical that there are spaces like the Dyke March in which my very diverse queer sisters self identify, and we continue spreading the revolution. The Dyke March committee is not the gender police. I also feel that gender identity, what genitals and/or chromosomes some of us have and are born with, does not mean someone is essentially male or female. In fact, history shows how many of our brothers and sisters have been tortured and discriminated against by institutions, law enforcement, and individuals because of constricting, conservative, offensive definitions of gender, and are still being harmed.

Secondly, I was struck by how on one hand you identified yourself as a lesbian feminist separatist, but I was concerned that you were not specific about identifying your grassroots work for social change with communities of color. It's critical for me as a mixed-race Latina lesbian, feminist social justice activist, and artist, that I know who my sisters of color are, and who are my white allies. However, race and ethnicity were pretty absent from your letter. Generalizing terms like "safe space" and "lesbian space" often mean very different things to queer, lesbian, bi, trans, and dykes without an understanding that the space does not repeat oppressive conditions, definitions, rules, and politics many of our sisters and dyke, tomboy, butch, and TG brothers face when entering space defined as "safe."

Thirdly, I feel strongly that feminist dykes, queer, bi, and trans women are here and they are at the forefront of social change, though the movement may not be primarily lesbian feminist separatists at the forefront. Throughout San Francisco and the East Bay, these lesbi-dyke-bi queer women of color, youth, immigrant, artists, social justice activists, and feminists are everywhere, still performing, making radical art, grassroots organizing, educating, taking up space, etc.

Internationally, feminist dykes have done groundbreaking, incredible social change work and continue

to do so. These women have made it possible for myself and many of us to be here. Some of my honorable elders continue to teach and learn, as I have committed to do my whole life. It is imperative that it be the responsibility of us all to get educated and continually re-educate ourselves about what's going on. How else can we continue the alliance and coalition-building with our allies? I encourage you, Lin, to definitely check out what's happening now with the radical, queer, feminist sisters. You have been committed to social change work for the past 25 years and it sounds like you have done incredible work being at the forefront. I hope you will continue working in the social justice struggles for feminist dyke liberation and therefore revolutionary liberation for us all.

Tina D'Elia, Hate Violence Survivor
Program Director
Community United Against Violence

Why so hooked on marriage?

I fail to understand why we, as a community, seem to be so attached to the word "marriage." As far as I'm concerned, let the breeders have it to define their relationships. Our energies would be far better spent defining our own relationships and demanding that they be legally recognized and granted the same rights and protections as heterosexual marriage.

My significant other of 13 years and I had a bonding ritual when we first got together. When San Francisco made it an option, we became domestic partners. What our relationship is called is less important than our commitment to each other.

What we need now are the same rights and benefits legally granted to heterosexual couples.

What's more important, constantly butting heads with right-wing zealots over a word, or getting what is rightfully ours?

Jim Ward
Berkeley

Missing the unity

Hearty thanks to Neil Uscier and Andrew Betancourt (Mailstrom, July 26). It is both exciting and comforting to know there are those who remember and respect gay Pride.

Yes, politics make strange bedfellows. Those who call themselves "queer" have chosen to get in the bed of hatred, disrespect and self-loathing with Jesse Helms, Jerry Falwell, George W. Bush, and Dick Cheney. I don't understand it, but that is their right. I, however, will continue to be gay and proud. Just as I won't support the candidates and agendas of the extreme right, I also won't support those of the other occupants of that bed.

I hope we can return to unity and pride in the gay community. They were wonderful things and I really miss them.

Bill Whitefield
San Francisco

Supe's tantrums not appealing

Supervisor Chris Daly seems to believe his continued tantrum throwing when he doesn't get his way at City Hall is attractive. It isn't. He already has a record of problems with City Hall security, had a near fistfight with the mayor, and now marches off yelling and slamming doors while participating in public board meetings. Yet he has defended this outrageous behavior more than once by saying it's because he is young and "idealistic." First, Mr. Daly is 28 years old, not 3. And since when does idealism have anything to do with temper tantrums? Idealism is a value; uncivil behavior is simple rudeness and lack of control. Real idealism when implemented usually requires personal sacrifice and a great deal of personal control while under duress—Martin Luther King Jr. and Gandhi easily come to mind. Does Mr. Daly truly believe his explosive behavior puts him in league with these people? Such delusions are frightening, nor do they serve the public as Mr. Daly was elected to do (with only 6,000 people voting in his district, I would add). He should be removed from office if he continues to display any more of this disgusting behavior. San Francisco deserves better than this.

Kim Stryker
San Francisco

A pickled tongue

Cleve Jones sticks out a pickled tongue at David Bach, proving once again that distance is no impediment to dishing (Mailstrom, July 26). Bach's crime? He wants to get some control over the drunks, junkies, and drug dealers now trashing the Castro.

Thanks, Cleve, for your sarcastic lecture to us, as we struggle against a tide of drug-dealing, used needles, urine, and feces. Hope you're happy and comfortable in sunny, bourgeois Palm Springs.

Arthur Evans
San Francisco

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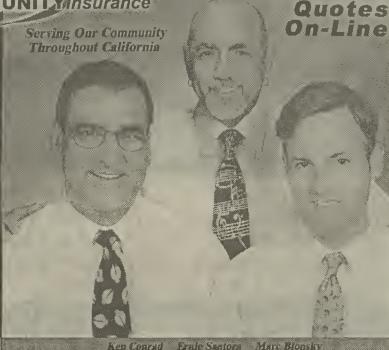
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What a friend

This letter is in response to the article about Jon Redmon ["Friends suspect drugs in gay man's death," July 20]. I was disappointed to see that the article was filled with so much negativity and invective, and utterly lacking in good taste overall. Furthermore, the fact that you interviewed only two people who knew Jon when he was still alive made the report extremely biased. Jon's passing was a terrible tragedy that quite possibly could have been prevented, but that does not mean that we should lay blame. Whoever may or may not share partial responsibility in this tragedy must come to terms with that shared responsibility on his own; it is not for us to judge. I would have liked to have read an article that celebrated Jon's life, rather than something that derided his friends, who, I can assure you, loved him dearly.

I never knew Jon to hold a grudge; he simply was not that kind of person. Jon was someone who had a wonderful inner light that he shared with the world. His warmth, his terrific sense of humor, and his flawless sense of style made him loved by many people in the Bay Area, and across America. Jon Redmon was not merely on the A-list, he was the A-list. He did not get to the acme of popularity by being a bitter, vindictive queen; he got there by being a loving and down-to-earth individual. The Jon Redmon I knew had a wonderful sweetness to him, and an ability to touch people's lives and to make them believe in themselves. He was a real class act. I hope that we all remember the way he was, and strive to emulate his wonderful, kind spirit.

Additionally, I would like to say that I do think that everyone should be aware of the dangers of designer drugs, especially GHB. Everyone should know by now that if you see someone pass out from taking GHB, you should take that person to a hospital or call 911 immediately, especially if you know or even suspect that that individual may have also consumed alcohol. It is better to be overly cautious, than to risk letting someone die tragically the way my friend did. One should never, ever leave someone alone who is experiencing signs of any kind of drug overdose. Remember that we are supposed to look out for each other; that is what it means to be a community.

Ryan C. Owens
 Santa Rosa, California

Pleased with film fest

I appreciate the frustrations of the letter writers with Frameline and the film festival, but I disagree that the festival is poorly run [Mailstrom, July 19]. General tickets are around \$8, which is less than many mainstream movies. For that money, you get a seat in a classic theater (when at the Castro), a chance to see the director (or the stars) in person, sometimes a short, an excited crowd, and more (balloons, trailers, fresh popcorn, etc.).

This year's festival selections were the best I have ever experienced. I typically see over a dozen films, and nearly all of them were of high quality this time around. Considering how many volunteers are needed to make this festival run, this year's film crowds were well-handled and most events "started" on time (an improvement over previous years).

I know that Frameline runs on a shoestring budget, and we are blessed with the best (and oldest) gay film festival on the planet. I believe the organizers are doing the best job possible. I greatly appreciate their contribution to the community, and I endorse nearly all of the tough decisions that they have had to make. Have the letter writers volunteered to help the festival? Have they made financial contributions?

Complaints are easy to do. Putting on an ever-growing (that must be an endorsement of some sort) festival is very difficult. Thank you, Frameline.

Tony Jasinski
 San Francisco

Middle East conflict

Contrary to Mikeal Levi's letter in the July 26 issue, one hardly need "journey back in time a thousand years or more" to understand a conflict a little over one hundred years old between the Palestinian Arabs and the Zionist movement (and later the state of Israel). First, the Palestinian "right of return" is not "alleged," but recognized under U.N. 194, which Levi cites. The resolution has been reaffirmed numerous times by the U.N., and Israel remains out of compliance. Levi fails to mention that Israel was accepted as a U.N. member only because Israel's leadership agreed to allow refugees to return. This is noted in U.N. 273, which admitted Israel to the U.N.

Whether one agrees or not, one should at least understand why Palestinians are generally not in favor of Israel as a Zionist state, as Israel allows any Jew in the world the right to citizenship while denying the same right to the Arab population expelled in 1947-48. Unfortunately, Mr. Levi does not mention that refugees who do wish to "live in peace" cannot return to their homes.

Further, following the 1967 war, Israel illegally occupied the remainder of Palestine and to this day continues to allow the settlement of its citizens into that

territory (in open violation of the Geneva Conventions), maintains an extensive military presence throughout the West Bank and Gaza, razes agricultural land, demolishes homes, and steals water. Given these circumstances, it is somewhat surprising Levi would criticize the Palestinians for their unwillingness to "live in peace" with their occupier.

However, were Israel to allow displaced Palestinians to return to Israel as citizens, the Palestinians would find themselves with the same second-class citizenship granted to the current 18 percent of the population defined as "non-Jews" under Israeli law. They would be denied the right to own or lease land (the vast majority of which is held exclusively for Jews), receive grossly unequal access to state resources, and have their village lands expropriated by the government (Umm al-Fahm being an infamous case in point).

The question then is not about Israel's "existence," as Levi suggests, but about whether Israel wishes to be a state privileging Jews at the expense of others, or a state that grants full equal rights to both Jews and Palestinian-Arabs. It cannot remain the former forever and expect to "live in peace" with those it discriminates against, any more than the U.S. could expect a peaceful citizenry were it to define its minority populations as "non-white" or "non-Christian," and passed laws accordingly.

Considering how the GLBT community feels about being denied equal rights in the United States, I believe U.S. financial sponsorship of Israel, or of any human rights violator, should be of concern to our community. I am in favor of denying aid to countries which oppress minorities, GLBT or not, including Israel and countries like Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

I encourage readers interested in the Israeli-Arab conflict to explore the work of Israeli historians such as Ilan Pappé, Simha Flapan, Tom Segev, or Avi Shlaim, who have made extensive use of Israel's archives to document the history of the conflict far better than Mikeal Levi or myself. The Institute for Palestine Studies is likewise a valuable resource. In addition, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Bat Shalom, B'Tselem, the Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment, and other Palestinian and Israeli human rights organizations can offer a better assessment of the current situation than what passes for news in the United States.

Jack Tilney
 San Francisco

Where is the color?

I like a good gay drama like anyone else, but alas I am frustrated with *Queer as Folk* not because of its shallow plot lines and predictable writing style. I stopped watching because I did not see myself within the show.

Where are the black characters within the show? Not even a party favor for Brian (the show's tramp). Nothing, nada, not a one and that troubles me.

Recently, I am watching *Queer as Folk* and it hit me again, "Where are the black people?" In Pittsburgh no less. For those of you who may be unaware, there are a good number of blacks in Pittsburgh (yes, I am aware that the show is filmed in Toronto).

No minorities in the gay bars featured that seem to be teeming with hot white muscled smooth gay men. Are not black men beautiful? Is a black man worthy of being slept with and then rejected by Brian or Justin? Is a black man worthy of being placed in an episode or two as a love interest?

The gay press and general gay community touts itself as one that is diversified and more enlightened and accepting of minorities than the straight community, well I do not see that as true. There has been little to no gay press coverage on this apparent oversight by Showtime as it continues to produce this highly received show. Who is watching over the gay press to make sure they show all angles of the gay community and not just the "gay white side"?

I am left to wonder if *Queer as Folk* (American version) had been made with all black characters (keeping all of the same elements of the characters and the series), would gays in America made a dash to their local cable company to subscribe to Showtime? Would there be *Queer as Folk* nights at gay bars across America? Would stark criticism of the show force it off the air? Would *Queer as Folk* be so well received by the overall community and gay press? I tend to think not.

Charles E. Ward
 Seattle, Washington

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POLITICS

Shelley now favored in Democratic primary

by Wayne Friday

When Southern California Assemblyman **Tony Cardenas** unexpectedly withdrew last week as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for California secretary of state, the political fortunes of San Francisco's termed-out Assemblyman **Kevin Shelley** immediately went up considerably.



Assemblyman Kevin Shelley

Shelley, who represents the city's 12th District and is the Assembly majority leader, is already considered a strong candidate for the secretary of state nomination in next March's Democratic primary, but the withdrawal of Cardenas leaves Shelley as the only male candidate in the race, against two women candidates, both with well-known names.

Shelley will face **Michela Alioto**, the 1998 candidate for that office (she lost to the GOP nominee by only 75,000 votes) and former Secretary of State **March Fong Eu**, who held the office for 20 years before retiring from the position several years ago.

The current California secretary of state is **Bill Jones**, a Republican, who is seeking his party's nomination for governor next year.

Shelley has the all-important endorsements of both California's U.S. Senators **Dianne Feinstein** and **Barbara Boxer**, and reportedly will have the support of Governor **Gray Davis**, Lieutenant Governor **Cruz Bustamante** and other top Democratic leaders.

Shelley is a native San Franciscan, a former member of the county Board of Supervisors, and is the son of the late former San Francisco mayor, **John Shelley**. Cardenas, who is also termed out of the Assembly, withdrew from the secretary of state race to run for a seat on the Los Angeles City Council. Cardenas was unknown in the northern part of the state, but was introduced to many San Francisco voters when he rode in the June Pride Parade with Assemblywoman **Carole Migden**, despite the fact that Migden had already given her endorsement to Shelley, her S.F. colleague.

Politics and people

Still a lot of talk around City Hall about Supervisor **Chris Daly**'s embarrassing temper tantrum during last week's vote on the city budget. Daly, up for reelection to his 6th District seat next year, reportedly has potential

opponents lining up to take him on, and a couple of his colleagues say that the guy had better "grow up" and stop using the "young and idealistic" excuse for his childish outbursts. One supe, usually thought of as an ally, told me that "When I grew up you were considered a man at 18; you couldn't still use the 'kid' excuse at 28." No doubt about it, Supervisor Daly's frequent outbursts remind some people of the crop of supervisors that district elections brought back in the 1970s.

Washington, D.C. insiders say that the U.S. attorney for San Francisco, **Robert Mueller**, will be confirmed as FBI director, probably unanimously.

South Bay sources tell me that former Mayor **Tom McEnery**, one of San Jose's most popular mayors, will take on incumbent Mayor **Ron Gonzales** next year.

Locally, both Police Commissioner **Dennis Herrera** and District 13 Assembly candidate **Mark Leno** are picking up important endorsements in their separate races.

And I'm told that our own Representative **Nancy Pelosi** is most assuredly on the fast track to best Representative **Steny Hoyer** (D-Maryland) to become the next Democratic minority whip in the House. The move would make Pelosi the highest-ranking female House member. Representative **David Bonior** (D-Michigan), the current Demo minority whip in the House, will soon give up the post to run for governor of Michigan.

Meanwhile, Washington insiders say that U.S. Senator **John Kerry** (D-Massachusetts) is already far ahead of other 2004 Democratic presidential possibilities (except, perhaps, **Al Gore**). Kerry, a pro-gay senator, is married to the multimillionaire widow of the late U.S. Senator **John Heinz** and is said to be already hiring staff. He also has made the obligatory trip (twice so far) to the first-in-the-nation primary state of New Hampshire, and is slated to address the AFL-CIO convention there in October.

New York's junior senator, **Hillary Rodham Clinton**, made a slip recently during a speech to the National Press Club. Responding to a query about a possible run for the presidency, Clinton replied: "No, I have said that I'm not running and I'm having a great time being presi—, being a first-time senator." A possible Kerry-Clinton ticket in 2004? Hell, I could live with that — it beats Bush-Cheney (or is it Cheney-Bush?)

And speaking of former first ladies, there's the interview that **Betty Ford** gave recently when she sniped at veep **Dick Cheney**, a fellow Republican, and defended Governor **Gray Davis**, former Governor **Pete Wilson**, and the state Legislature that started the energy mess with deregulation back in 1996. Ford, upon hearing that Cheney complained about the excessive electric bills at the veep's mansion, said: "I really chuckled at that because he hasn't been very sympathetic to California's energy problems." As for blaming Davis for the state's energy crisis, Ford suggested that perhaps it was Wil-

son who was really to blame. Ford suggested that Davis was unfairly being blamed: "I think most administrations get the blame for what went on before them."

To the reader who called predicting that U.S. Representative **Gary Condit** would ride it out and be in office "for years to come": Wanna bet a lunch on that? A poll done last week by the *San Jose Mercury News* showed that nearly 60 percent of the voters in Condit's 18th District said they will not vote for him if he runs in 2002; he won reelection with 67 percent of the vote in 2000.

In Boston, Massachusetts, gay and minority firefighters say racist, sexist, and homophobic treatment in that city's 1,600-member department is going totally unchecked, causing some to be fearful for their jobs. They have asked the mayor and other city officials to look into the matter. Five hundred of the city's firefighters are minorities, and only 18 are women.

Okay, single women and gay men who make up the most of **George Stephanopoulos**'s fan club can give it up — the guy is getting married in November to actress **Alexandra Wentworth**; yes, George, the pretty boy-wonder of the early Clinton years, who is now reportedly pulling down millions annually at ABC, is giving up the single life.

Senator **Joseph Lieberman** (D-Connecticut), the 2000 Democratic veep nominee, is developing his own version of legislation passed last week by the Republican-controlled House of Representatives that would expand federal funds for religious charities. Lieberman and Senate Majority Leader **Tom Daschle** (D-South Dakota) fear that the bill passed by the House and favored by the Bush administration would allow for discrimination against gays, lesbians, and others.

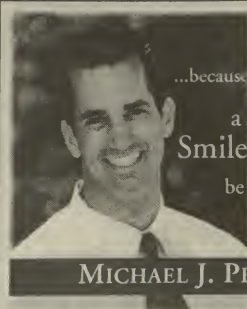
Meanwhile, Capitol Hill prognosticators are quietly predicting that Dubya will eventually take the lead (demand?) from Pope **John Paul II** and reject the use of human embryo stem cells for scientific research. Look for Bush, however, to delay a decision on this as long as he can.

Some California Republican leaders think that the Bush White House is preparing to take over the state's GOP party machinery and the state Republican convention slated for September 14-16 could be a political bloodbath between the Bushies and the far right conservatives who have long in control of the California Republican Party.

Oops: Last week's column stated that Representative **Duke Cunningham** is from Orange County; he actually represents a district in San Diego County, as a couple of alert readers pointed out.

Gotta print this one, courtesy of *Newsweek*. **George W. Bush**, on his return trip to Europe, was asked by a student at London's Morningside Primary School this question: "What is the White House really like?" Bush: "Well, it is white."

And how was your week? ▼



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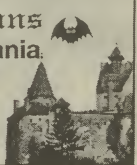
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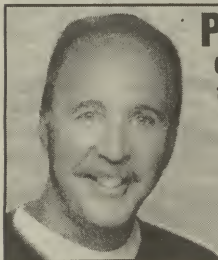


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Scrap Bush's faith-based bill

by Paula Martinac

When the *Washington Post* exposed the shady White House-Salvation Army deal to boost Bush's "faith-based initiative," major newspapers decried the well-known charity's anti-gay bigotry. But HR 7, the bill to increase federal funding to faith-based charities that was passed by the House on July 19, could still permit anti-gay workplace discrimination by religious institutions. Gay and straight Americans alike should call on the Senate either to amend or scrap the bill.

Ever since Bush first talked about giving federal money to religious groups, activists and politicians have expressed concern that the plan would compromise the separation of church and state. Although many religious groups might not use taxpayer funds to discriminate, the federal government can't possibly monitor every single religious-run social service program for discriminatory practices. Homosexuality is still viewed as a sin by many religious sects, and it's unclear what would stop fundamentalist groups from using government funds to deny lesbians and gay men employment.

Some in our community might wonder why it's important that lesbians and gay men be able to work for religious charities in the first place. Consider that many lesbians and gay men are deeply religious and might find it fulfilling to work for a social service program that is religiously affiliated. Too often, homophobic religious leaders assume that lesbians and gay men are "godless" and don't share their values and beliefs. But in fact, many gay people of faith agree with their religious leaders on almost everything except homosexuality.

Consider, too, the case of Alicia Pedreira, who in 1998 was recruited for a job as a clinical therapist at the Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. It was an attractive offer; the boss was a respected clinician, the position paid well, and she would have had an opportunity to work with teenagers, a professional goal of hers. But Pedreira had another consideration: She's a lesbian, and the Southern Baptist Church is notoriously anti-gay. When she came out in her interview, the supervisor advised her simply to keep quiet about her sexual orientation. However, when higher-ups found out she was gay, she was fired, and she had no legal recourse.

That's because lesbians and gay men still have no national non-discrimination law to protect them in the workplace, even though about three-quarters of all Americans believe that anti-gay discrimination in employment is wrong. According to the Human Rights Campaign, even in the South, arguably the country's most conservative region, almost two-thirds of voters are against workplace discrimination. At the same time, over half of Americans mistakenly believe that federal law protects gay employees.

Thanks to the hard work of les-



Christine Smith

bian and gay activists, there are now 12 states and about 200 counties and municipalities offering some form of employment protection to gay people. As a result of Alicia Pedreira's experience, which received a lot of media coverage, two Kentucky cities and one county passed gay-rights laws.

The failed Salvation Army deal seems especially tawdry because it included a quid pro quo that would have affected all those hard-won local and state ordinances, which were designed to make up for the lack of a federal gay-rights law. The Salvation Army agreed to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars promoting Bush's faith-based initiatives while the White House in turn would issue a regulation exempting religious charities from abiding by local gay-rights ordinances and withholding federal money from cities and states that tried to make the charities adhere to them.

It's not surprising that the "compassionate" Bush administration rushed to distance itself from the deal, making the Salvation Army look as low-down and mean-spirited as the Boy Scouts. Many mainstream media reports then incorrectly suggested that, because the scandal was exposed, the problem of anti-gay discrimination under the faith-based initiatives had been nipped in the

bud. Now letters from readers appalled by the Salvation Army's duplicity appear on editorial pages across the country.

I'm glad that the Salvation Army has finally been caught with its prejudice showing, since there have been stories about its bigotry circulating in the lesbian and gay community for more than a decade. But so much focus on one anti-gay religious institution has detracted from the threat to gay rights that still exists in the form of the recently passed HR 7. The mainstream media are still not reporting that continuing threat as widely as they should.

One section of the bill, for example, states that a religious organization administering a federally funded program has "the right to retain its autonomy from federal, state and local governments." This and other passages suggest that federal law might actually override local and state gay-rights laws, and some Republicans have confirmed that it would indeed.

Both Democratic and Republican efforts to alter the wording of the bill met with defeat in the House. Clearly, the Senate must come up with a solution that won't write further discrimination against lesbians and gay men into federal law. ▽

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Award-winning author of seven books. She can be reached care of this publication or at LNcolumn@aol.com.

Bisexual and gender conference next weekend

by Liz Highleyman

The first North American Conference on Bisexuality, Gender, and Sexual Diversity (NACB 2001) will take place next weekend, August 9-12, in Vancouver, Canada.

Although initiated by bisexual organizers, the expanded conference theme reflects the connections and overlap between and among bisexuals and members of the transgender community, the BDSM and polyamory communities, and others. NACB 2001 hopes to "bring bisexual, transgender, polyamory [non-monogamy], BDSM, intersex, and other sexual minority communities together under a single roof." People of any — or no — sexuality or gender identity are welcome to attend.

The weekend will commence with a wine and cheese reception and art auction on Thursday evening. Workshops will be held Friday afternoon, all day Saturday, and Sunday morning. Workshops are arranged into tracks devoted to gender issues, relationships and sexuality, bisexuality, community, arts and culture, politics and activism, spirituality, health, and youth issues.

Some of the more intriguing scheduled presentations include "girlfags and gudydyes," the consequences of male gender stereotyping, burnout prevention for activists by longtime bi organizer Robyn Ochs, sexualizing spirituality, a safer sex sluts workshop, "How to Have a Gender-Free Orgasm," polyamory in a monogamous world, and anti-racism for

page 19 ►

HISTORY LESSON

How did gays and lesbians lose official status at the U.N.?

by Rawley Grau

July 30, 1993 (eight years ago this week): A United Nations council votes to give consultative status to the International Lesbian and Gay Association.

When the International Lesbian and Gay Association received consultative status at the United Nations in 1993, it seemed cause for celebration. For the first time, gays and lesbians would have an official

voice among the nations of the world.

But the joy was short-lived. Soon homophobic groups in the United States were saying that ILGA promoted pedophilia. These charges resulted not only in ILGA losing its status at the U.N.; they nearly tore the group apart.

Founded in 1978 and based in Brussels, ILGA is an umbrella association comprising more than 350 gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender organizations from all over the world. Among other

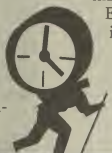
activities, ILGA organizes regional conferences for activists and lobbies governments and international agencies on gay-rights issues. Its membership represents an immense range of concerns, from lesbian sports groups, to struggling gay organizations in Africa, to the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

It would seem logical that ILGA should have consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the principal U.N. body responsible for promoting human rights. More than 2,000 non-governmental or-

ganizations (NGOs) enjoy such status, including such groups as the Salvation Army, the Nature Conservancy, and the Federation of European Motorcyclists. Consultative status allows these organizations to submit reports to ECOSOC and participate in its conferences. But until 1993, there had been no NGO that specifically represented sexual minorities.

ILGA first applied for consultative status in 1990, but it wasn't until March 1993 that the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations recommended the application be approved—over strenuous objections from Muslim delegates.

When the matter came up at ECOSOC's meeting in Geneva on July 30, 1993, feelings were so heated the council departed from its usual consensus procedure and called for a roll-call vote. Twenty-two countries, including the United States, voted in favor of ILGA's accreditation; four countries—Syria, Malaysia, Swaziland, and Togo—opposed it. Cuba's favorable vote was a surprise; its delegates said Cuba had "learned from



Past Out

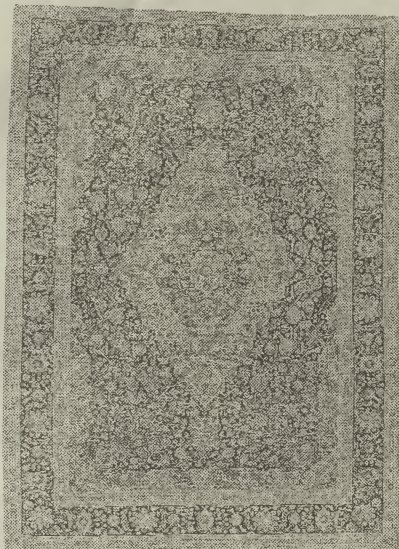
page 18 ►

Suggested reading

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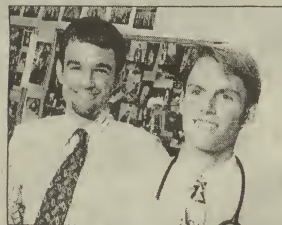
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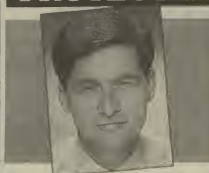
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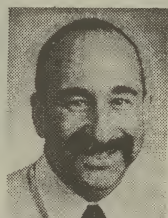
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NCSF, activists discuss sexual freedom issues

by Liz Highleyman

A dozen local activists met Saturday, July 28, with Melinda Chateauvert of the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom to discuss local and national issues related to sexual civil liberties. The San Francisco meeting was one of several NCSF is hosting around the country this summer to discuss strategies and obtain local community input on the best ways to advance sexual rights and freedoms. Chateauvert said the organization wants to be "responsive to local needs, not just D.C.-based"—although the group recently moved into its first office space in Washington, D.C.'s Dupont Circle.

NCSF is best known for its work with the BDSM/leather/fetish community, but is seeking to broaden its scope to address issues concerning the right of all sexual minorities to engage in consensual adult activity. The organization often finds itself responding to crisis situations—BDSM party busts, arrests of professional dominants, attempts to close community spaces, and negative references to BDSM in the media—but Chateauvert said it is eager to engage in more "proactive sex activism." The organization has undergone a "major reorganization," she said, and is putting in place a new "more democratic" structure, an expanded role for individual members, an annual membership meeting, and member election of board delegates.

Saturday's meeting joined members of the gay male, lesbian, and heterosexual BDSM/leather communities, including academics, authors, health care providers, and event organizers.

So-called liberal San Francisco is relatively free from some of the types of repression faced by members of the BDSM community in less enlightened parts of the country, who often approach NCSF when they face losing custody of their children or being fired from their jobs because they engage in sadomasochism. But the local gay male community faces its own issues, participants noted, including raids of sex parties, periodic crackdowns on outdoor cruising, and the lack of bathhouses and other public sex venues that permit closed rooms.

San Francisco is also unique in that the measures some queer men see as repressive come, not from heterosexual officials, but from other gay men and lesbians within the government and public health establishments. Due to the GLBT community's thorough integration into local politics, controversies here less often reflect an "us against them" battle with conservative heterosexuals, and more often signal real differences of opinion within the community.

Said author and activist Eric Rofes, "The S.F. scene isn't about homophobes restricting sex, it's gay people in the system who have power."

Community historian Gayle Rubin pointed out that enforcement of sex-related laws is often unpredictable, random, and somewhat accidental. Such laws vary widely from city to city and state to state, as does their likelihood of being enforced. Although



From left, Gayle Rubin, Melinda Chateauvert, and Jay Wiseman.

some sex laws are rarely enforced, their continued existence on the books poses the risk of their use should the political climate change.

Dr. Charles Moser spoke of his efforts to have paraphilias (fetishes and non-normative sexual desires and practices) removed from the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. Homosexuality was removed as a disorder in 1973, and changes in 1994 classified sexual sadism, exhibitionism, and other practices as disorders only if they "cause clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning." The continued listing of such practices in the manual has, however, been used as ammunition for law enforcement actions.

Proactive outreach needed

Author Jay Wiseman, who gives presentations on BDSM to college human sexuality classes and other audiences, encouraged NCSF to focus on "proactive educational outreach." Noting the difficulty of "teaching a jury from scratch" when a sex-related issue goes to trial, Wiseman suggested that the community could get the "most bang for the buck" by educating psychologists, social workers, law enforcement and legal professionals, the press, and others.

Addressing recent controversies such as the sexual affairs of politicians and the outing of local barebackers, Rofes said that the country is at a "contradictory moment" regarding sex issues. On one hand, the U.S. has made "tremendous strides" in people's understanding and acceptance of sexual variations and women's sexual agency (as shown by the popularity of the TV show *Sex and the City*). But at the same time, the idea that people are entitled to privacy is "collapsing." He suggested that when someone is exposed for engaging in stigmatized sexual behavior, masses of people should come out and say, "Me too!"

Rubin was less optimistic, noting that the Nazi period in Germany followed a period of expanded sexual liberation. She said that times of polarized attitudes are especially dangerous, since

"things can go either way." There are serious signs of sexual repression in the U.S. today, she said, in particular "sexual predator" laws that are used to confine people in definitely in mental institutions or special facilities even after their prison sentences are served. Registration and confinement regulations are on the whole harsher for sex offenders than for murderers. Of special concern is the branding of very young children as "sexual predators" for engaging in sexual play with peers that would have been considered normal in decades past.

The issue of child pornography is also a ripe area for repression, as exemplified by a recent case in which a man was sentenced to indefinite confinement for writing about sex with children in his private journal. The issue of child sexuality—especially intergenerational sex—is an explosive one for all communities, but has used to demonize gay men in particular. Moser noted that the hysteria over child sexuality in recent years has led to a generation of children who are not touched and learn only about abstinence and the dangers of sex. Participants agreed that NCSF would eventually—no matter how difficult—have to deal with child sex issues.

"The political costs of taking a position on age issues is high, but the cost of not addressing them is equally high," Rubin said.

Rubin emphasized that any credible sexual freedom organization must "at a minimum" support decriminalization of obscenity, prostitution, and sodomy.

Discussions within GLBT, BDSM/leather, and other sex-positive communities about how to speak to the mainstream are nothing new. There is an ongoing debate between those who want to show that sexual minorities are "just like everybody else"—even if it means disavowing some of the community's more "edgy" or controversial members or practices—and those who express pride and delight in their differences. Chateauvert said the NCSF is looking to craft public messages that appeal to liberals and conservatives alike: promotion of choice and privacy, the hypocrisy of selective enforcement, and the money wasted in prosecuting sex-related cases while schools and other services go unfunded. ▼

Senate Judiciary Committee moves hate crimes legislation

by Bob Roehr

The Senate Judiciary Committee passed gay-inclusive hate crimes legislation by a 12-7 vote last Thursday, July 26. The measure is officially known as the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act (S 625). It adds coverage of sex, sexual orientation, and disability for the first time.

The main sponsors are Senators Gordon Smith (R-Oregon), Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts), and Arlen Specter (R-Pennsylvania). Two Republicans on the committee, Specter and Senator Michael DeWine (R-Ohio), joined all of the Democrats in voting for the measure. Kennedy called hate crimes "modern-day lynchings" that "have no place in modern-day America."

Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) led opposition to the measure. He argued against expanding federal jurisdiction into an area that traditionally has been the responsibility of the states. He was particularly concerned with adding the category of sex, fearing that the bill would make "every rape, every domestic assault" a potential federal crime.

It is this expansion of federal authority that led the American

Bar Association to oppose similar legislation in the past.

Hatch proposed an alternative measure that would allow federal law enforcement authorities to assist local authorities who ask for assistance with hate crimes cases. He would study the situation to see if hate crimes based on sexual orientation are handled differently in different jurisdictions. If that proves to be the case, then he would support federal intervention to guarantee equal treatment under the law. Hatch's alternative was defeated on a vote of 7-12.

"We are extraordinarily grateful that the committee acted decisively and that the full Senate will now get a fair chance to vote on this bipartisan bill," said Winnie Stachelberg, political director of the Human Rights Campaign. The group has made the legislation one of its highest priorities.

A similar hate crimes measure was offered as an amendment to other legislation last year and passed the Senate by a vote of 57-42. That type of maneuvering will not be necessary with the Senate now under Democratic control. Passage seems likely, perhaps by a wider margin.

However, the House Republican leadership says it has no in-

tention of bringing hate crimes legislation to a vote in this Congress. Stachelberg contends that the measure would pass by a comfortable margin. She points to a 232 to 191 vote last year on a non-binding resolution to accept the Senate amendment on hate crimes. Opposition from people like Representative Tom DeLay (R-Texas), however, scuttled the measure in conference.

When he was governor, George W. Bush worked behind the scenes to derail hate crimes legislation in the Texas Legislature. It passed earlier this year and was quickly signed into law by his successor, Governor Rick Perry. The Bush administration has not taken a position on this particular piece of legislation.

Some social conservatives were generally critical of the bill. Noted homophobe Robert Knight said in a written release that the legislation was prosecution for "thought crimes," a criticism shared by some on the ideological left, and a violation of equal protection.

Knight added, "We believe that a grandmother walking down the street should have at least as much protection under the law as a homosexual who is leaving a 'gay' bar." ▼



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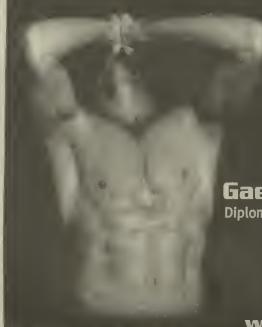
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ENDA reintroduced in Congress

by Bob Roehr

A star-studded political lineup of lead sponsors from both houses of Congress staged a lovefest for reintroduction of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2001 at a news conference on Tuesday, July 31. The Human Rights Campaign has made passage one of its top priorities.

The measure would prohibit job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. It is a slightly modified version of legislation introduced in past sessions. Some 40 members of the Senate and 180 members of the House already have signed on as cosponsors.

"Thomas Jefferson articulated the self-evident truth that all of us are created equal and endowed by our Creator with the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," said Senator Joe Lieberman (D-Connecticut).

This bill "would extend the bedrock American values of fairness and equality to a group of our fellow citizens who too often have been denied the benefit of those founding principles," he added. Lieberman called ENDA "a statement of both common sense and of common values."

"This is something we should have passed a long time ago; there is simply no reason in 21st century America to have discrimination

in employment based on race, religion, creed, sexual orientation, or any other reason," said Senator Arlen Specter (R-Pennsylvania). He had slipped out of a confirmation hearing on Robert S. Mueller III to be director of the FBI to attend the news conference.

"Civil rights is the unfinished business of the nation," said Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts). He called ENDA's provisions "straightforward and limited." He took care to point out, "It does not require employers to provide domestic partnership benefits, and it does not apply to the armed forces or to religious organizations. It also prohibits the use of quotas and preferential treatment."

Representative Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts), said he took comfort in two things: polling data showing that the American people strongly support the concept, and "the extent to which our opponents lie about it."

As if on cue, the extreme group Concerned Women for America released a statement that began: "Led by Senator James Jeffords, a group of left-wing senators reintroduced [ENDA], a bill designed to give homosexual pressure groups enormous power in the workplace."

Frank refuted lies raised by the far right. He said, "The bill explicitly disavows affirmative action." Conspiratorial talk of a "hidden agenda" with the legislation was dismissed with a quotation: "Hypocrisy is the tribute that vice pays to virtue." Reactionaries try to make the bill something it is not.

The Republican Party "often has been accused of being with big business," said Representative Mark Foley (R-Florida). He wanted to encourage that thought, because 266 of the Fortune 500 largest companies have enacted this anti-discrimination protection for their employees. "The bottom line of their company is based on the skill, and ability, and quality of their workers, not who their workers sleep with."

"I think it is time for Congress to wake up to reality," Foley said. Politicians depend upon their staff for work and sound advice, "and often that advice comes from wonderful gays and lesbians here in this Capitol." He called for quick passage of the bill.

Jeffords (I-Vermont) noted that he has been "a leading proponent of this legislation for some years. I believe we are finally going to get it done." He also pointed out that his support makes it "tripartisan."

Jeffords spoke of the late Representative Bella Abzug (D-New York) who introduced the first gay civil rights bill in Congress in 1975, the year that Jeffords entered Congress. He said the legislation "does not create any special rights, it simply protects the rights that should belong to every American, the right to be free from discrimination at work."

"As Americans we have made remarkable steps combating discrimination based on people's faiths and the color of their skin," said Representative Ellen Tauscher (D-California). "Now it is time we take another important step, a long-awaited step, to end discrimination based on sexual orientation."



Senator Joseph Lieberman

"Barry Goldwater said there was no gay exemption in the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," began Representative Christopher Shays (R-Connecticut). "Job discrimination against gays or anyone else is contrary to each of these founding principles."

Shays spoke of visiting Arlington National Cemetery and the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial. "On that wall and in those graves are men, and some women, who had different religions, different ethnic backgrounds, different nationalities, different races, different sexual orientations. And they gave their lives for this country."

Counting votes

Kennedy said that with the change in leadership in the Senate, the priorities have changed. He has "every expectation" that the measure will come to a vote in that chamber this year. The outlook is much less clear in the House. While most are confident that they would win a vote, that seems unlikely to take place in light of opposition from the Republican leadership.

Shays said that 252 members of the House "voted to sustain President Clinton's executive order barring discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the [federal] workplace ... They said it was wrong to discriminate." That was the margin by which the Hefley amendment was defeated in 1998.

Foley said they are going to make the case with the Republican leadership for a scheduling a vote. But he does not see that coming before January.

"As long as they can get away with not addressing certain issues and not offend their base [of political support], they are going to do it," said Shays. But when the Gallup Poll shows that 85 percent of Americans believe that gays should have equal rights in the workplace, "that speaks volumes to politicians."

Frank was skeptical. He believes the Republican leadership is acting "not out of personal prejudice but out of fear of alienating part of their base ... The Republican leadership in the House so far has a perfect record of not allowing anything to come to the floor that would be supportive of the rights of gay and lesbian people."

Kennedy said that if the House refuses to act on a separate bill, "We are going to add it on to other legislation," just as last year they attached hate crimes legislation to a defense authorization bill. "This issue isn't going to just disappear. We guarantee there is going to be accountability. We will use every parliamentary means that we possibly can." ▼

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Houston protects gay city workers

United Press International

The Houston City Council last week passed an ordinance to protect gay city employees from discrimination 16 years after a similar measure was defeated by voters in a referendum that drew national attention.

Mayor Lee Brown led the council in approving the law that protects employees on the basis of sexual orientation, race, gender, age, and other factors. The vote was 10-4 last Wednesday, July 25 after two attempts to gut the ordinance were turned back by the majority of the council.

"It is something that is long overdue and years in the making,"

said Council member Annise Parker, a lesbian who worked for passage of the measure.

Brown praised the vote in an interview with the *Houston Chronicle*. "The Constitution guarantees that we all have the same opportunities, the same rights," he said. "As mayor, I want to make sure that I do everything in my power to make sure that that carries out as part of city government."

The City Council voted in 1984 for a similar non-discrimination law, but voters defeated it in a 1985 referendum that attracted national media coverage. Houston was one of the first U.S. cities to enact such non-discrimination legislation at the time. After tak-

ing office in 1998, Brown issued an order banning discrimination against gay city employees but a council member filed an injunction against it. It was held up in court for years until last month when the Texas Supreme Court affirmed Brown's original order.

Three years ago, Brown proposed extending benefits such as health insurance to the same-sex partners of gay city employees but he withdrew it until an ordinance could be enacted against discrimination. He said he still plans to have the council vote on same-sex benefits. A petition drive is under way in Houston to force a referendum on whether the city should provide medical benefits to same-sex partners of gay workers. ▼

Smith victory

◀ page 1

a tremendous victory for lesbian and gay people in the United States to have some judge finally say, "You know what, it's really not fair, it's not fair that you don't get to seek recompense when your life partner was wrongfully killed."

"I was surprised, initially, that the judge ruled from the bench. However, it was clear from the oral arguments that he had not only read all the briefs but that he had immersed himself in all of the relevant cases," said Minter.

"No court in California has had to make this kind of decision," added Minter's co-counsel Robert Lazo. "It's very apparent that this judge took every step to look at all of the considerations and this is a momentous day not only for gay and lesbian rights but also for human rights as well."

Smith told reporters she sensed Whipple's fighting spirit throughout Minter's arguments.

"It's a big victory," she said, wiping the tears from her face. "A huge emotional moment."

Gay rights groups throughout the state lauded Robertson's decision as a major step forward.

"We are thrilled that the court correctly recognized Sharon Smith as the widow of Diane Whipple and will allow her to pursue her wrongful death action against the defendants," said Marriage Equality California board member and attorney Molly McKay. "The court's ruling brings justice to a horrible tragedy by recognizing that committed same-sex couples, barred by law from marriage, deserve the same rights afforded their opposite-sex married counterparts."

"Sharon is the perfect example of why same-sex couples should be allowed to legally marry," noted McKay in a press released issued by the organization. "Sharon was the life partner of Diane Whipple, not a legal stranger as argued by the defendants in this case. It is a step in the right direction. But we seek full equality for same-sex couples and the only way to full equality is by access to the protections afforded legal civil marriage."

Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, along with the City and County of San Francisco, filed a brief with Robertson in support of Smith's right to bring the suit. BALIF had high praise for the ruling.

"We are thrilled over this emotional and hard fought victory," said BALIF co-chair Linda

Scaparotti. "Setting aside the legal importance of this ruling, the victory is a true reflection of the collaborative work of a number of organizations and private firms and individuals who have focused their time, attention, and resources on this issue. Prior to this ruling, gays and lesbians have had no redress in the face of such terrible personal tragedy."

In a jailhouse interview with the *Bay Area Reporter* a day after the ruling, Noel said he was surprised by the ruling and would appeal, adding that he was confident Robertson's decision would be overturned by a higher court.

Hastings College of Law Professor David Levine told the *B.A.R.* that he thought there was a "reasonably good chance" the California Court of Appeals would uphold Robertson's decision. Levine cited two recent cases in which the appeals court decided in favor of plaintiffs who argued that laws that have the effect of discriminating against gays are in violation of the California Constitution's equal protection provisions.

"My greater concern would be that if the Court of Appeals upholds Robertson's decision and Noel takes it to the California Supreme Court, they may not go along," said Levine. "I didn't find any California Supreme Court cases going quite as far as those recent California Court of Appeals cases, so I think it would be more than an open question whether it would succeed at that point."

"The California Supreme Court may choose not to take it," noted Levine, "and the case may end up being essentially dismissed

as moot anyway because if [Assembly Bill 25] rolls through Sacramento and the governor signs it, that's going to be retroactive till January 1."

That proposed bill, AB25, authored by Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco), passed the Assembly in June, and is currently in the Senate Appropriations Committee awaiting action. Among other provisions, the bill would give domestic partners comparable rights in civil cases. AB25 was recently amended in the Senate Judiciary Committee to be retroactive, covering lawsuits brought after January 1, 2001. So if passed, it would cover Smith's suit brought after the deadly January 26 attack on Whipple. Even if Smith's suit is eventually thrown out by the higher courts, Noel and Knoller still face a wrongful death suit brought by Whipple's mother, Pamela Whipple-Kelly.

On the same morning the civil hearing was under way in the courthouse in Civic Center, across town at the Hall of Justice, the criminal case against Noel and Knoller took on the issue of whether to euthanize Hera, one of the two dogs involved in the deadly mauling. Bane, the male dog who instigated the attack, was destroyed shortly after the incident.

Superior Court Judge James Warren ruled in favor of Animal Care and Control officials who had argued it was inhumane and served no useful legal purpose to keep Hera locked up in a small pen any longer. But Warren noted that Hera still must be kept alive pending an injunction by Judge Robertson who will take up the matter at an August 15 hearing. ▼

Latino study

◀ page 1

working closely with SFSU's Diaz. Besides Aguilar, the other local project coordinators is Jorge Sanchez.

Outcomes that study organizers hope to determine and analyze include how safer sex, substance use, and mental health and well-being are linked to HIV risk.

"Some people in the Latino community," said Ramirez-Valles, "find substances as companions to alleviate pain, layers of shame, [or] guilt" about their sexuality. Among the most popular are methamphetamines, alcohol, cocaine, and poppers.

The emphasis on community heroes is learning from their activism, according to Ramirez-

Valles. "We want to look at people who have done great things, who are heroes. We want to learn how they contributed in dealing with the [HIV] epidemic."

Larger samplings down the road will allow for an overall analysis of links between the people in the gay/bisexual Latino community, community links and group, intervention options, safer sex, and HIV.

In the end, Ramirez-Valles said, to plan for action, "we want to understand what kind of involvement is needed, and why." ▼

For information and recruitment, call toll free (888) 699-2800 beginning Monday August 20. The study's Web site is www.uic.edu/sph/2comunidades.

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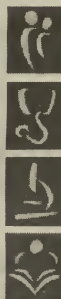
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OMI, oh my!

by Jason Stein,
ALRP Housing Attorney

The following is an occasional column compiled by the AIDS Legal Referral Panel on issues of concern to people living with AIDS.

Dear ALRP:

I have been living in the same apartment for the past 10 years. There are three other units in the building and I know they are all paying much higher rent than I am. Now my landlord is saying he wants to move into my apartment.

If I have to move I will not be able to afford an apartment in San Francisco, and as a person living with AIDS, leaving San Francisco means giving up my support network of friends, health care providers, and many social services. Needless to say, I'm scared of the prospect of losing my home, and frankly, I'm angry too. I have a hunch the landlord doesn't really want to live there but wants to get me out so he can raise the rent. Do I have to move?

Signed,
Doleful on Dolores

This hypothetical inquiry mirrors many of the calls I receive at AIDS Legal Referral Panel so I will discuss OMI's generally.

Dear Doleful:

The answer depends on whether your building is covered by the San Francisco rent ordinance. If you rent an apartment in San Francisco, your building may be covered. If so, you can only be evicted for causes allowed by the rent ordinance. If your landlord is selling the building, the new owner "steps into the shoes" of your old landlord, and your tenancy should remain just as it was with your old landlord. The rent ordinance means that any landlord, old or new, cannot just throw you out.

One of the most popular ways for landlords to try to evict tenants is by an owner move-in or OMI. For the purposes of this column, I will discuss how the law applies to multi-unit residential rental buildings, not single family homes or condos.

Just what is an OMI?

An OMI allows an eviction in order to let an owner or an owner's relative move into a unit currently occupied by a tenant. Only one OMI per building is allowed, even if the building has several owners. An owner must occupy the unit within three months of when the tenant leaves. An owner who already resides in the building may OMI another unit in the same building to permit the owner's relatives to move in.

As with all notices to vacate in San Francisco, there are strict rules regarding the form and content of the notice and you should seek competent advice as to whether your notice is valid. You will usually get a 30-day notice, and the owner must pay each tenant who has resided in the unit for 12 months or more a minimum of \$1,000 in relocation costs. Each

tenant gets \$500 upon service of the notice and that money is non-refundable even if the owner later decides not to go through with the OMI. When the tenant actually leaves the unit, the owner must pay each tenant another \$500.

For any OMI's, if your landlord owns another comparable vacant unit in San Francisco, that unit must be offered to you at a rate similar to your old unit, with adjustments made for differences in the units.

You may be protected from OMI

Fortunately, for some of us there are protections from OMI evictions. You cannot be evicted under the OMI law if:

- you are over 60 years old and have lived in your apartment for over 10 years;
- you are disabled (as defined by SSI guidelines) and have lived in your apartment for over

10 years;

• you have a catastrophic illness and have lived in your apartment for over five years. Talk to your doctor to see if you have a health condition that qualifies as a catastrophic illness.

But these protections do not apply if the owner is moving in a relative and the relative is over 60 or disabled or has a catastrophic illness, and no other unit is available.

What if landlord is bluffing?

Some landlords have threatened to OMI tenants or even initiated OMI's in order to scare a tenant into vacating the unit. Once the tenant leaves, the landlord will raise the rent to market value and re-rent the apartment at a higher rate. OMI's must be made in "good faith" – meaning, the owner must have the honest intention of moving into the unit. The owner also must intend to occupy that unit for at least three years. If the owner doesn't move in within

three months or stay for the full three years, the owner must re-rent the apartment to the displaced tenant at the same rent as before the OMI. This is also evidence of a "bad faith" OMI. A bad faith OMI can result in the owner being sued by the displaced tenant for wrongful eviction. Owners who intend to OMI should be very clear about the rights of their tenants before attempting to OMI a unit.

This column is meant to give you general information about OMI's and potential protections, but it does not cover all aspects of OMI's. Also, these laws may change frequently, so if you are served with a notice for an OMI or any kind of notice to quit, you should seek the advice of a legal professional immediately. You can also get more information from the San Francisco Residential Rent Stabilization and Arbitration Board at (415) 252-4600 or visit their Web site at <http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/rentbd/> for information on OMI's and other landlord/tenant issues.

Since 1983, ALRP has provided free and low-cost legal services for people with HIV in the San Francisco Bay Area. ALRP provides direct services and referrals to HIV-sensitive panel attorneys. ALRP can assist you in a variety of matters, including credit and bankruptcy, insurance and employee benefits, wills and powers of attorney, landlord-tenant relations and housing issues, government benefits, employment, confidentiality, and establishing child guardianship. This article is not intended as legal advice for your specific situation. ▼

Do you have any legal questions? Call ALRP at (415) 701-1100 or (510) 451-5353; or write: 205 13th Street, Suite 2170, San Francisco, CA 94103-2461. For specific questions regarding housing call (415) 701-1200, ext. 314. To find out more about ALRP visit the Web site at www.alrp.org.



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To stop AIDS, find hub, scientists say

by Mike Martin, UPI
Science Correspondent

Getting the best AIDS treatments money can buy to nations without money to buy them may be the only way to eradicate the global plague, according to new findings released July 23 by Notre Dame University researchers.

Until now, the best arguments

for providing costly AIDS drugs to impoverished African and Asian nations drowning in the illness were humanitarian. Albert-Laszlo Barabasi and Zoltan Deszo have now provided what may be the first convincing scientific evidence that slowing AIDS in developing nations may actually halt its global course. They said poorer nations represent highly concentrated "hubs" or disease centers with just enough global connectedness to make eradicating the disease within their borders absolutely essential.

"The continued spreading of the HIV virus is remarkable because relatively effective therapies are available that not only expand the lifetime of infected individuals, but also lower the transmission probability," Barabasi said in a recent paper on the subject. "The problem is that these expensive therapies are beyond reach in developing countries."

Building on previous work by Boston University researchers Luis Amaral, H.E. Stanley, and coworkers, Barabasi and Deszo claim newly quantified patterns of human sexual contact create a "node-hub" architecture more

typical of a computer network than a populated community. These hubs and nodes, they said, are so concentrated and yet so connected that eradicating any sexually transmitted disease requires concentrated efforts at the hubs. As in any computer network – or a chain of Christmas lights – interrupting the flow of information or electricity at a hub can cause flows to cease network wide. So too, Barabasi and Deszo claim, with AIDS. Slow or stop the disease at a hub, they said, and you severely reduce its ability to spread anywhere else.

"We are indeed familiar with the results by Barabasi and coworkers and are certainly excited by all the developments coming out," Amaral told United Press International. "We believe that the new focus on the possibility of characterizing the structure of networks could help the understanding of epidemics both for human and animal diseases."

The discovery of this new pattern of epidemic transmission is a major step in a worldwide effort. Amaral and Stanley revealed humans engage in "scale-free" pat-

page 19 ►

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Peter Dominick Koch

April 25, 1958 — July 1, 2001



Peter lived in San Francisco for the past 10 years. From Midland, Texas, he kept his admirable Texas attitude, slight accent, and kickin' sense of humor. He was bright and visionary and held great dreams. While striving to improve his life, he shared his ideas and inspirations with others and continually surprised and amused many with his clever talents. His generosity and humor reflected his loving and kind nature. He loved his two cats, and his green thumb was boldly prevalent in his home. Peter expressed his emotions with

sincerity and affection, and although his time here was not nearly long enough, he made a strong impact on those he met and were fortunate enough to really get to know him.

I pray he has found the peace he has earned and truly deserves. He will be forever remembered in my heart and in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. I did. We miss you dearly Peter.

Charles Alan Nattkemper

Nattkemper, Charles Alan — in San Francisco July 25, a native of Berkeley, born 12/03/1953; son of the late John Nattkemper & Andree Achard, loving brother of Mike, John, Steve (Nona) Nattkemper and Andree Nattkemper-Okunephew of Martine Achard & Mjr. Robert (Gloria) Nattkemper.

Memorial Services Friday 11 a.m. at Duggan's Funeral Service, 3434 17th St. (near Valencia). Donations preferred to

Glide Memorial United Methodist Church, HIV/AIDS Project, 333 Taylor St., San Francisco CA 94102.

Miss Tee



Tee was born on the 5th of August 1957 in Clarksville, Tennessee to Maureen Maffett and Frank Howard and given the name Frank Edward Waller.

Tee moved to San Francisco in May of 1996. Quickly she made this city her home. Her joy of cooking, socializing, and entertaining acquired her many friends and associates.

She worked for the Project Open Hand Food Bank and was recognized for her help and dedication. She then started to deliver meals to the Franciscan Tow-

ers. As a member of the City of Refugee she was given charge of the kitchen for the United Church of Christ Conference.

Lady Tee was an accomplished performer and did appearances in several local clubs: 1100 Club, Mother Lode, and Diva's, along with other engagements for the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies and the Health Studies for People of Color.

Tee transcended this existence on the 28th of June 2001 at St. Mary's Hospital in the early morning (12:52 a.m.). She was survived by her son, David Kennedy; brothers Walter, Willie, and Horace Maffett, sisters Evelyn Bridges, Nina Howard, Francia Clark, and Fonda Maffett. There are a host of other cousins, nephews, nieces and friends.

Donations should be made to Project Open Hand, 730 Polk St., San Francisco, CA 94109. Memorial at City of Refugee on the 6th of August, 2001, at 7 p.m., 1025 Howard St. (entrance on Harriett), San Francisco.

Restaurateur Gordon Jones dies at 75

by Cynthia Laird

Gordon Jones, a pioneer gay restaurateur in San Francisco, passed away on Friday, July 20. Born on November 5, 1925, he was 75 years old and succumbed to congestive heart failure.

Bay Area Reporter publisher Bob Ross, a longtime friend, said Mr. Jones will be deeply missed. "We will always remember this warm and loving man."

Mr. Jones and his partner of 25 years, Richard Templeton, who preceded him in death in the early 1980s, opened up Gordon's Restaurant. The time was the early 1950s, when gay bars in San Francisco had an average life expectancy of about two years. Gordon's Restaurant was quite the exception, Ross recalled, as it lasted until the late 1960s.

During its height, the restaurant was the number one gay restaurant and meeting place in San Francisco; it was located at the corner of Broadway and Sansome streets, in the heart of what then was the city's principal gay district, North Beach. The other gay area for bars and restaurants was

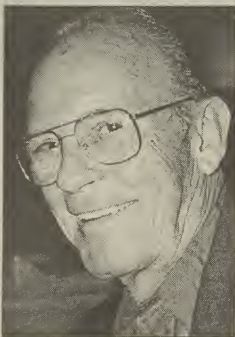
the Tenderloin. Back then, these two areas were the only parts of San Francisco where gay bars were allowed, Ross noted. By the late 1960s, the city's bars and population had shifted and Polk Street came into its own as a gay area.

It was during that time that Mr. Jones and his partner sold their interest in Gordon's Restaurant and moved to Marin County, the community of Fairfax to be exact, and that was where they opened a new restaurant called Rubini's. It was quite successful and remained so until they sold it and returned to San Francisco.

There, they opened a new Gordon's on Jones Street between Golden Gate and Turk streets. It was also a success but with a difference — this restaurant had a show room.

"They served fine food and offered excellent entertainment," said Ross.

Ever community minded, the show room became a meeting place for public forums, shows, and fundraisers. It was also the host bar for many Imperial Court functions. The bar closed in the mid-1980s after the death of Mr. Jones's partner, Dick Templeton.



The late Gordon Jones

Mr. Jones then moved to Petaluma and got out of the restaurant business. He did part-time work as a security guard and was quite content, Ross said.

"We hope that Gordon and Dick are reunited in peace," said Ross. "These two fine souls will long be remembered not for the food and camaraderie they displayed, but for all they gave to this community when we were fighting for our rights. God bless you both and rest in peace."

No service will be held. Donations in memory of Mr. Jones can be made to your favorite gay charity. ▼

Massachusetts Scout council OKs gay leaders

United Press International

Massachusetts Boy Scout council put pressure on the National Boy Scouts of America by adopting a "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy regarding homosexual leaders, the *Boston Globe* reported Wednesday, August 1.

The policy approved by the board of the Massachusetts Minuteman Council allows gay scoutmasters without technically violating the national council's ban.

"The Scouts will not inquire into a person's sexual history and that person will not expose their sexual orientation one way or the other," said Brock Bigsby, executive scout of the Minuteman Council that serves 330 troops in greater Boston.

He said that under the new policy, as long as they don't discuss their sexual orientation, homosexuals could be scout leaders. "Discussions about sexual orien-

tation do not have a place in Scouts," Bigsby said. He said he believes the policy, which bars exclusion of anyone on the basis of race, religion, or sexual orientation, is consistent with the National Boy Scouts Council's position on homosexuality.

Boy Scouts of America national spokesman Greg Shields was not immediately available to UPI for comment. He was at a jamboree in Virginia where, according to a recording on his answering machine, "cell phones and pagers and things are notoriously unreliable in the rolling hills of Virginia."

The Boy Scouts have lost support and membership since the U.S. Supreme Court last year upheld the organization's ban of gays from leadership positions. According to a recent *Newsweek* survey, enrollment in the Boy Scouts has dropped 4.5 percent nationwide since the Supreme Court decision. On its Web page, bsa.scouting.org, the BSA says: "Boy Scout-

ing makes no effort to discover the sexual orientation of any person. Scouting's message is, however, compromised when prospective leaders of youth present themselves as role models inconsistent with BSA standards. We believe an avowed homosexual is not a role model for the traditional moral values espoused in the Scout Oath and Law and homosexual conduct is inconsistent with the values we wish to instill."

The Minuteman Council's action was hailed by the American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project. Spokesman Eric Ferrero told the *Globe* that the Minuteman Council is believed to be the first to draft an anti-discrimination policy within the framework of the national group's doctrine. Ferrero called the local group's policy "encouraging and significant," and said it appears it "is going to be difficult for the National Boy Scouts to oppose." ▼

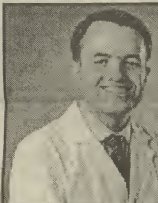


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Made

by Jim Provenzano

In China, winning the bid for the 2008 Olympic Games became cause for huge celebrations in major cities throughout the country and provinces. Or at least the images that were shown to us were jubilant.

In China, according to ABC News and the Associated Press, over 1,100 people a year are executed. Those that are kept as political prisoners include human rights activist Xu Wenli, 58, who suffers from hepatitis and chronic back pain, his wife says. Xu, whose wife is also in prison, has been refused medical parole.

China's prisons hold many others who their families say are too sick to be behind bars, with ailments ranging from heart disease and tuberculosis to mental illness.

But even though "medical parole" was the reason Beijing gave for releasing some U.S.-linked scholars, critics argue it is politics, shown by Secretary of State Colin Powell's recent visit, and not health, that determines who is freed and when.

In China prisons and labor camps can be harsh, with poor sanitation, strict discipline and beatings — especially for prisoners convicted of political crimes.

In China, with over 300 Tibetan monasteries destroyed, they still enjoy favored-nation status, benevolent trading deals with our ports, and lots and lots of Marlboros. China's having won the bid for the 2008 Olympics angers civil rights activists from all countries.

Make your tourist plans now, because you won't be able to check your e-mail once you're there, and they don't take American Express.

Last week, Chinese officials shut down over 8,000 Internet cafes, claiming they have been used to download and receive "obscene" information.

Let's say the host city for the 2008 Olympics had a g— bar (that word is not a valid search term).

Let's say it hadn't been closed

or arsoned before the red carpets were laid out for the world-class event. Let's say every cruise zone isn't flattened, and pretty much all the jailed dissidents, poets, authors, and writers will have been released in a gradual trickle.

Let's say the International Olympic Committee and a few governments made a deal, and China is begrudgingly moving away from the days of militaristic sportsmanship, as described in a Mao-era event: "In the Jiangxi Soviet and the base area of Yan'an, activities such as grenade throwing and marksmanship were organized, as well as swimming competitions and ice skating. Table tennis became one of the favorite sports here, despite the fact that it was an American invention."

Can I get one Chinese poet out of jail for a Brazilian soccer player not to get arrested for taking his shirt off? A dozen Falun Gongers for a team of hockey players? An interesting aspect of the Falun Gong is members' use of modern communication media for spreading its message, using mobile telephones and e-mail messages. The doctrine is spread through numerous Internet sites. Chinese leadership perceives the Falun Gong as a threat, a "socio-religious movement in a century-old tradition of religiously inspired rebellions, which the communist regime has always depicted as [potentially] revolutionary on the one hand," but also as a threat to the true messianic teachings of communism.

I'll give you two volleyball officials for four political prisoners. Going once, going twice. But back to the jocks, because the 2008 Olympics will just be about sports. At the 2000 Olympics, nine athletes came out or were out. Exponentially, we can hope for more in Athens, Greece in 2004.

How many out g— (that word is not a valid search term) and les— (that word is not a valid search term) athletes will go to China? Or should I say, how many will be allowed entry into China?



The Chinese community welcomes gay athletes with open — as if!

Let's say two jocks decide to go to "that kind" of bar throughout the week of events, along with about 200 fans, since that's pretty much the only number of "that kind" that will allowed into the country.

Let's say the athletes go there, and are spotted, detained, arrested, questioned, forced out of the country, get their feet beaten, or maybe their plane gets kidnapped, and after they're forced out of the country, they get an invoice for their costs?

Oh, wait, that would never happen. Communism is dead!

Come sail away

A 10-person Federation of Gay Games team ended several days of discussions last week with Sydney 2002 board members and staff, as well as local government officials and community business leaders, according to a new federation announcement.

"Rebutting recent negative press reports" (particularly on

Outsports.com) "that stressed disagreements between the Federation and Sydney 2002, officials of both groups said the partnership between the two bodies had reached a new level of comfort and transparency."

"Sydney's new team has inspired confidence and demonstrated they will deliver the Games," said federation spokesperson Kathleen Webster. "It was surprisingly easy addressing each other's concerns about issues such as the license agreement."

The licensing fee is said to have been lowered from \$1 million U.S. to \$1.2 million AUS, or \$650,000 U.S.

The situation had been earlier described through a "leaked memo" as rife with problems. The loss of government financial support, the contract problems with Internet sponsors over "aggregated content," and a recent tabula rasa on the Sydney board seemed to cast doubt on their ability to produce the quadrennial GLBT athletic event.

However, the FGG's Bev Lange anticipated a hopeful 15,000 participants and \$100 million in tourist dollars.

Webster, a U.S. FGG board member, said the organization's board rejected recent statements by its co-president, Bill Wassmer, in a recent edition of the *Sydney Star Observer*.

Wassmer, who agrees with the dire predictions in the "leaked memo," refused to rule out Sydney losing the 2002 Gay Games, a

major event that has yet to receive public sector financial support. A "major Australian corporate sponsor" has yet to be named.

According to the federation, more than 2,000 people have already signed up for the various sports and cultural events through the Sydney 2002 Web site. Early registration is hoped to bring in some cash, but not enough to pay pre-production expenses.

"Government support is important to the success of the Games. It's clear the discussions have stilled the waters that press reports have stirred up," said Councillor John Fowler, mayor of South Sydney.

"There's been a spirit of cooperation all week," said Sydney 2002 Co-chair Peter Bailey. "The open exchange of ideas has been an important ingredient in building trust."

Gay Games VI, "Under New Skies," is still planned to begin with some (but not as many as former Cultural Director Robin Archer had envisioned) cultural events on October 25, 2002.

The official opening ceremony is still planned for November 2 with all sports events and additional cultural events running through November 9.

For more information about Gay Games VI in Sydney, go to the Sydney 2002 Web site at www.sydney2002.org.au. The federation's Web site is www.gaygames.com. ▼

Read older, odder articles at <http://sportscomplex.org>.

Past Out

◀ page 11

its mistakes." Seventeen countries abstained, some on procedural grounds.

ILGA hailed the vote as a milestone. "The world community has recognized ... that lesbian and gay rights are human rights," declared ILGA Secretary-General Hans Hjerpejkon.

But anti-gay groups in the United States were not going to let the U.N. bestow its imprimatur on homosexuals without a fight. In September 1993, the *Lambda Report*, a right-wing newsletter that claims to "monitor the homosexual agenda," published an article under the headline "U.N. Grants Voice to Gay Group with Pedophile Ties." The article pointed out that ILGA counted among its members the North American Man-Boy Love Association, which supports men who desire sex with adolescent and preadolescent boys, as well as sadomasochist clubs. The implication was clear: pervers now had a seat at the U.N.

Republican Senator Jesse Helms, a longtime anti-gay crusader, took up the cause. He introduced an amendment to withhold nearly \$119 million from the U.N. until the State Department could certify that no U.N.-accredited NGO "promotes, condones, or seeks the legalization of pedophilia, or ... includes as a subsidiary or member any such organization."

"The notion that the United Nations should be consulting with child molesters on how to spend American taxpayers' money is outrageous," Helms argued. His amendment passed unanimously.

Not only the United States, but even loyal supporters like Canada and Australia began to question ILGA's accreditation. In response, at its world conference in New

York in June 1994, ILGA voted to expel NAMBLA and two other similar groups, but it was a highly controversial decision. Many accused the group of caving in to right-wing, anti-sex views, and NAMBLA supporters — including writers Pat Califia and Camille Paglia and pioneering gay-rights activist Harry Hay — staged a march against ILGA.

Nor was the United States happy. In August, the State Department learned that a German ILGA organization had an association with a pedophile group; consequently, it could not certify that the U.N. was free of child molesters. Since ILGA couldn't guarantee that none of its members had any connection whatsoever with offending groups, ECOSOC suspended its consultative status at a behind-closed-doors meeting in September 1994. This was the first time since the 1950s that an NGO's U.N. status had been revoked.

The fall-out continued. In its effort to appease the U.N., ILGA demanded that members sign a statement saying they do not condone pedophilia. Many refused on principle, and one — the Toronto-

based Pink Triangle Press, which publishes three Canadian gay newspapers — was so outraged by the ultimatum it resigned. This was especially painful, because just two years earlier Pink Triangle had come to ILGA's aid with a \$10,000 donation.

By July 1996, less than half of its membership had signed the anti-pedophilia statement, and ILGA announced it would rescind the requirement. Financial concerns were a likely factor; from 1995 to 1996, revenues — which came largely from members' dues and donations — had dropped from about \$215,000 to about \$50,000. Pink Triangle Press rejoined in 1997.

ILGA has since dropped efforts to restore its position at the U.N. Currently, the only specifically queer NGO at ECOSOC is the Australian Coalition of Activist Lesbians, which gained consultative status in 1999. ▼

Rawley Grau has won four Vice Versa Awards for his writing on gay and lesbian culture. He can be reached at GayNestor@aol.com.

CUAV

◀ page 5

ing to a female survivor, Christina Saint Laurent.

It was her first lesbian relationship. "When I allowed someone inside my sphere [and was betrayed], it was completely destructive. I felt I had found sanctuary [with my lover] but there was still room for violation. You start questioning what is true. There's a sense of hopelessness."

Well-meaning friends urged her to get out of the relationship, but it wasn't that simple, Saint

Laurent said.

For her, the beginning of healing came when a CUAV staffer suggested she write a poem about the incident.

"I wrote about the effects of domestic violence," said Saint Laurent, "and it opened a Pandora's box ... devastating things in childhood ... it brought that part of my life to the surface." ▼

For help, call crisis lines at CUAV (24 hours), (415) 333-HELP; W.O.M.A.N. Inc., (415) 864-4722; or Asian Women's Shelter, (415) 751-0880.

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Energy ballot

◀ page 2

sil fuels. At times giving the sense of preaching to the choir, a number of speakers said that San Francisco could be a national leader in the use of renewable energy. Leno told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he has not heard of any opposition to the content of the measure.

Edward Smeloff, assistant general manager of the city's Public Utilities Commission, addressed the myth that San Francisco is too foggy for efficient solar generation, and noted that solar cells produce the most power at times of the day when demand is highest. Several suppliers of solar technology spoke in favor of the proposal, noting that local production could drive down costs and provide jobs.

Mack Moore, of BP Solar in Fairfield, noted that San Francisco gets more sun than Northern European countries which have widely implemented solar energy programs. Support also came from various government and nonprofit organizations, including the city's Department of the Environment, the federal Department of Energy, the Neighborhood Parks Council, Baykeepers, the Union of Concerned Scientists, and the Gray Panthers. Said Linda Weiner of the American Lung Association, "Public health needs must be central to power planning."

Homeowner Gretchen Cotter, who recently installed solar panels on her residence, called the solar proposal a "no-brainer" as she displayed copies of her \$4.67 PG&E electric bill. Cotter urged the board to move beyond plans to install solar technology on city property, and urged a "carrot and stick" approach to encourage businesses and private citizens to invest in solar energy.

Ammiano's plan

Ammiano's proposal could help provide the carrot. It would allow a new, not-yet-created entity to issue bonds for renewable energy projects. The money would be used for the installation of solar panels on city buildings, businesses, and private residences, and would enable the city to "front" money to small business owners and residents who wish to use the technology.

Noting that at current prices solar technology is beyond the means of many potential buyers, Ammiano said that bulk purchasing would lead to lower costs. According to Ammiano, response to the proposal has been "very enthusiastic," and that there has been a "groundswell of support" nationally and internationally as well as locally.

There was discussion at both the July 18 committee meeting and the July 23 full board meeting about whether the two proposals were redundant and whether having both on the ballot could tend to confuse voters. Leno said he did not believe that the presence of both measures would hurt support for either. Supervisors Leland Yee and Tony Hall supported Leno's measure but not Ammiano's, indicating that they wanted to leave funding decisions to the voters.

The two measures passed last Monday bring the number of energy-related propositions on the upcoming November ballot to four; the two others are related to public power and the establishment of a municipal utility district (MUD). The ballot measures, said Ammiano, "show that San Franciscans really want to take local control and have renewable energy sources ... and to tell PG&E to eat our dust." ▼

See you at Folsom!



These men enjoyed themselves dancing at the Dore Alley street fair last Sunday in San Francisco, perhaps warming up for an encore at the Folsom Street Fair on September 30.

Carole Migden

◀ page 4

ing on disease risk, issues of addiction, and barriers to adequate care.

Rainbow Adult Community Housing, as previously reported in the *Bay Area Reporter*, has evolved from an all-volunteer effort to develop affordable housing for LGBT seniors into a nonprofit organization about to hire its first executive director. The group is currently conducting feasibility studies and searching for a site to build the first LGBT senior community housing complex in San Francisco; the state budget funding will go toward furthering these goals.

The Horizons Foundation, the well-known organization whose

mission is to fund projects that will work toward equality, tolerance, and respect for the LGBT community, will use the state budget funding to conduct a study that focuses on anti-gay campaigns and their effect on public health.

Migden also secured an additional \$110,000 within the state education budget for a training program to ensure safety for LGBT students. This training program will help to implement the California Student Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 1999, authored by then-Assemblywoman and now state Senator Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica), which added sexual orientation as a prohibited basis for discrimination within public schools.

In all, San Francisco received funding for a variety of projects, from a senior citizen center in Supervisor Gerardo Sandoval's district to a parks project in Supervisor Aaron Peskin's district to a "Back on Track" program at the church led by former Supervisor the Reverend Amos Brown. But it is the LGBT programs that hold a special significance for Migden.

"These programs will begin to address a myriad of issues; education, healthcare, housing, and discrimination that we in the community face daily," said a statement released by Migden after the budget's approval. "We must continue to bring forth innovative and invigorated efforts to examine and repair problems that affect our community." ▼

Bi, gender conf.

◀ page 10

white queers. In addition, several researchers will present results of their studies of bisexual identities and practices.

Associated activities will include a BDSM play party and a literary reading on Friday evening, a dance and Wiccan ritual on Saturday evening, and a farewell barbecue on Sunday afternoon.

The conference's keynote speakers exemplify the dual themes of bisexuality and gender. The event's opening plenary on Friday morning will feature well-known author, performance artist, and transgender activist Kate Bornstein. Her books include *Gender Outlaw: On Men, Women and the Rest of Us*, and *My*

Gender Workbook.

The other keynote speaker will be the Reverend Dr. Elijahoh Farajae, a self-described "guerrilla bisexual theologian" and dean and professor of the history and sociology of religion at Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley. He has spoken widely on bisexuality, spirituality, and multicultural diversity. Also an author, his works include *In Search of Zion, African Creative Expressions of the Divine*, and *Breaking Silence: Towards an In-the-Life Theology*.

Concurrent with the conference, on August 11-12, will be the annual meeting of BiNet USA, the first and largest national bisexual organization. BiNet underwent a reorganization last year, and this meeting will be an opportunity to discuss the successes, goals, and future plans of the group. The or-

ganization's new board of directors will be introduced, as well as the new executive director if the board completes the selection process at its August 9-10 meeting. The first-ever meeting of BiNet Canada also will take place on August 11.

The conference falls between the weekends of Vancouver's Pride celebration and queer film festival, allowing interested participants to extend their visit to sample the city's queer culture. ▼

NACB 2001 will take place August 9-12 at the University of British Columbia Conference Centre in Vancouver. For more information or to register, see the Web site at <http://bi.org/~binetbc/2001> or call (604) 875-6336.

AIDS, find hub

◀ page 16

terms of intimacy: A very few individuals have the largest number of sexual contacts. Sociologists and epidemiologists previously had taken for granted the idea that human sexual activity followed a standard bell-shaped curve: The largest clusters of people would have an average number of sexual contacts with very few people engaging in either very few or very many sexual encounters at either ends of the curve. Instead, the Boston researchers found a curve that gradually curves upward and keeps rising.

Most surprising, a very few 10 percent of men have 48 percent of all sexual encounters, a pattern more like the distribution of wealth where 1 percent of people control 95 percent of all assets. Capitalizing on this discovery, Spanish scientists Yamin Moreno, Romualdo Pastor-Satorras, and Alessandro Vespignani showed that scale-free transmission patterns allow even the weakest infected diseases to spread unchecked. The frightening upshot is that given the scale-free pattern of human sexual contact, "short of a cure or vaccine available to all, the HIV virus will eventually reach the so far uninfected segments of the population exposed to the disease,"

Barabasi explained in the paper.

Now Barabasi imposes a network architecture on AIDS transmission patterns. "Epidemics spread without a threshold on a scale-free network thanks to hubs and nodes with an unexpectedly large number of links," Barabasi said. "Once infected, hubs offer an efficient conduit for disease spreading by reaching an unusually high percentage of other nodes."

As a result, anything less than attacking the disease at its hub represents random treatments that cannot contain the epidemic because, Barabasi said, they "leave the scale-free nature of the network unaltered." ▼

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 249849

The following person(s) are doing business as: Flower Cart. 2 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94104. This business is conducted by an individual signed Chieng Sai-Mui. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 27, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/27/01. **JULY 12, 19, 26, AUG. 2, 2001**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 249993

The following person(s) are doing business as: Michael Vash Designs. 1165 Bay Street #5, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael E. Vash. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, July 02, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/03/01. **JULY 12, 19, 26, AUG. 2, 2001**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 249662

The following person(s) are doing business as: Frameline Production. 766 Clementina, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mario Bruno. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 18, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/18/01. **JULY 12, 19, 26, AUG. 2, 2001**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 249554

The following person(s) are doing business as: Daniel Scott Ripley Caterer. 85 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Daniel Scott Ripley. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/13/01. **JULY 12, 19, 26, AUG. 2, 2001**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 321200

In the Matter of the Application of Tung Anh Payton. For change of Name. The application of Tung Anh Payton for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Tung Anh Payton has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Anh Payton. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 30th day of August at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. **JULY 19, 26, AUG. 2, 9, 2001**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 250127

The following person(s) are doing business as: Caffe Soma. Soma Caffe, Caffe Soma Coffee. 1601 Howard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed John Z. Rocker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, July 2, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/10/01. **JULY 19, 26, AUG. 2, 9, 2001**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 250026

The following person(s) are doing business as: Maurice's Restaurant. 312 Divisadero, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Maurice Mogannam. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/05/01. **JULY 19, 26, AUG. 2, 9, 2001**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 250130

The following person(s) are doing business as: David Lurey Consulting / David Lurey Ashlana. 1348 Sacramento Street #16, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Lurey. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/12/01. **JULY 19, 26, AUG. 2, 9, 2001**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 250213

The following person(s) are doing business as: David A. Stacy Designer. 378 Liberty Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Arthur Stacy. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, July 12, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/12/01. **JULY 19, 26, AUG. 2, 9, 2001**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 250099

The following person(s) are doing business as: Vege House. 309 6th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Van T. Dang. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, July 19, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/09/01. **JULY 19, 26, AUG. 2, 9, 2001**

STATEMENT FILE NO. 250236

The following person(s) are doing business as: New Fashion Design. 888 Brannan Street, #275, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Oh, Hyang Suk. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, July 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/13/01. **JULY 19, 26, AUG. 2, 9, 2001**

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

City and County of San Francisco
Department of Human Services
Request for Qualifications #203

Dear Potential Applicant:

The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services (SFDHS) announces its intent to seek qualifications from individuals or organizations interested in contracting to provide research and evaluation services for the Green Book Initiative, a collaborative of public and private agencies working to establish supports and services for families experiencing domestic violence and child maltreatment. The Contractor will be responsible for coordinating and implementing the research and evaluation effort for the interdepartmental planning process around this Initiative.

The contract period will run from 10/01/01 to 9/30/02 for an amount to be determined.

An RFQ packet may be picked up at SFDHS, Office of Contract Management, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 300, on or after Thursday, July 26, 2001. Office hours are from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. RFQ packets will also be available on the internet at <http://civiccenter.ci.sf.ca.us/purchase/pbids.nsf>, click on the "Consultants and Professional Services" link.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on Friday, August 3, at 2:00 PM at 170 Otis, 8th Floor Conference Room, SF, CA. For further information, call Joseph Huang at (415) 557-5181. Due date for responses is Friday, August 31, 2001 at 5:00 PM.

STATEMENT FILE NO.250254

The following person(s) are doing business as: Brendel Insurance Services, 1000 Pennsylvania Avenue #4, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed James R. Brendel. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/13/01.
JULY 19, 26, AUG. 2, 9, 2001

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.322877

In the Matter of the Application of Julian Andres Mendoza, For change of Name. The application of Julian Andres Mendoza for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Julian Andres Mendoza has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Louis Alonzo Mendoza. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 11th day of September at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JULY 19, 26, AUG. 2, 9, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO.250251

The following person(s) are doing business as: Agueda's Family Daycare, 1393 York Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Agueda Rivas. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 26, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/13/01.
JULY 26, AUG. 2, 9, 16, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO.250378

The following person(s) are doing business as: Seventy-Seven Auto Repair, 77 Grace Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Thomas Chan-president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, July 01, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/19/01.
AUG. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO.250318

The following person(s) are doing business as: Thomas International Group, LLC, 2261 Market Street, #466, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Thomas D. Matty, principal. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, July 18, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/17/01.
JULY 26, AUG. 2, 9, 16, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO.250343

The following person(s) are doing business as: Asia Pearl Co. Inc. 888 Brannan Street #195, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Jennifer Chuang, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, July 18, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/18/01.
JULY 26, AUG. 2, 9, 16, 2001

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: CASE NUMBER: C-01-02771

Morris H. Jacobs, deceased; Jay B. Jacobs, deceased, Executor of the Estate of Morris H. Jacobs; Testate and Intestate Successors of Morris H. Jacobs, deceased; All Persons Unknown, claiming any legal or equitable right, title, estate, lien or interest in the property described in the complaint adverse to Plaintiffs Title, or any clouds on Plaintiff's Title thereto, and Does 1-10, inclusive.

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: OAK HILL PARK COMPANY

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons is served on you to file a typewritten response at this court. A letter or phone call will not protect you; your typewritten response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case.

If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or a legal aid office (listed in the phone book).

The name and address of the court is: Superior Court, Contra Costa County 725 Court Street, Martinez, Ca. 94553. The name, address, of plaintiff's attorney, is: Denise E. Chambliss (SBN 188390) Doyle & Associates 1820 Bonanza Street, Suite 201, Walnut Creek, Ca., 94596
JULY 26, AUG. 2, 9, 16, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO.250520

The following person(s) are doing business as: Bartley Anderson, 130 Brentwood Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Paul Villa and Rob Willis. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, July 25, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/25/01.
AUG. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO.250486

The following person(s) are doing business as: Red Rat Industries, 95 McCoppin Street #E402, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Malia Spanyol. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, July 15, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/24/01.
AUG. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2001

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 217796

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Thomas Chan DBA Seventy-Seven Auto Repair, Located at: 77 Grace Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 10/02/1997. This business was conducted by: a individual: Thomas Chan
AUG. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2001

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.323231

In the Matter of the Application of Arthur Charles Corbett For change of Name. The application of Arthur Charles Corbett for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Arthur Charles Corbett has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Arthur Christopher Corbett. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 25 day of September at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
AUG. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2001

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.322136

In the Matter of the Application of Duane Martin Boyer, For change of Name. The application of Duane Martin Boyer for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Duane Martin Boyer has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Dina Lee Boyer. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 20th day of August at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
JULY 19, 26, AUG. 2, 9, 2001

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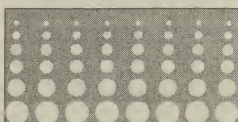
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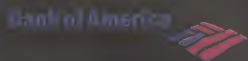
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Moore is more at Legion of Honor
'Henry Moore: Sculpting the 20th Century'
offers a reappraisal of an entire career.

page 32

Big bang Butoh energy
SF Butoh Fest returns with
angst to Theater Artaud.

page 28



Summertime reading
Poetry, nature writing,
camp fiction, espionage.

pages 30 - 31



BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 31 • No. 31 • 2 August 2001



A gay man and the Mouse

Straight talk from gay Disney
exec Thomas Schumacher

by Richard Dodds

If there is a lavender ceiling in Hollywood, Thomas Schumacher has yet to bump his head. The president of the theatrical and animation divisions at Disney arrived at the company in 1988 with no doors on his personal closet, yet has seen his stock steadily rise at the world's most famous purveyor of family fare.

"Could I be Michael Eisner someday? I don't know," Schumacher said. "But I don't see where my career has gone wrong by being openly gay. I have my Tony Award, and I'm on TV all the time, and I make fantastic things, and I work

with the best people in the world."

Schumacher claimed the Tony as producer of Disney's *The Lion King*. But if his follow-up stage effort wasn't even nominated for a best-musical Tony Award, *Aida* has confounded the naysaying critics by becoming a sturdy Broadway hit. The arrival of the touring edition of *Aida* in San Francisco this week prompted an invitation to visit with Schumacher at Disney's animation studio in Burbank.

Sitting in his tastefully understated office, Schumacher had trouble staying on the *Aida* message as he waxed

loquaciously on subjects ranging from his high school days in San Mateo to his boyfriend of 19 years to his utter disregard for *Queer as Folk*.

But the story of how *Aida* arrived on Broadway last year is in itself an intriguing one, especially since it looked like it would be Disney's first theatrical failure following the enormous successes of *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Lion King*.

Working with the writer, director, and designers of *Beauty and the Beast*, Schumacher and then-partner Peter

page 28 ►

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

THEATRE

Sam what am

Sam Harris at Plush Room

by Robert Julian

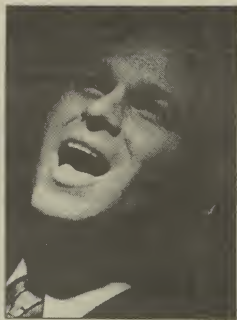
In what you might call a "stealth" engagement, Sam Harris blew into town for two late shows at the Plush Room last week. There was no publicist, and therefore no publicity, but this handsome, diminutive vocalist had no trouble winning over the audience. Dressed in pin-striped black slacks and a V-neck black T-shirt, Harris opened with "Reefer Man," followed by a generous amount of stage patter on local news, his recent run in a Los Angeles production of *Hair*, and the show he did in Fresno immediately before his San Francisco arrival.

His songbook for the evening included a diverse selection of show tunes, Top 40 hits, and cabaret classics. But aided by his versatile pianist, Todd Schroeder, Harris took a spectacular and unscheduled detour into the blues that left the audience shouting its approval. Harris usually invests his numbers with the kind of megawatt delivery that needs no amplification. But his tender rendering of ballads like "I Can't Make You Love Me" and "Drinking Again" firmly established his versatility.

During his show, Harris demonstrated the kind of unconscious physical gestures that could keep a therapist in business for years. He hugged himself frequently, kept lifting his T-shirt above his waist, revealing a gold navel ring, and wiped the back of his hand across his nose like a coke freak. What these idiosyncrasies mean is anybody's guess. Harris has taken a lot of flak for getting his show business start as a *Star Search* winner, and for staying in the closet just a little too long, but there is no denying his talent. For his final encore, he delivered a touching rendition of "In My Life" and actually managed to get the audience to sing along in a natural and thoroughly moving way.

After a decade of albums, Broadway plays, and concerts, stardom remains elusive for Harris. But the small cadre of gay

male admirers who made up the bulk of his audience last weekend hardly seemed to notice. Time and talent are on Harris' side; it's just a matter of waiting for the right opportunity to materialize. Someday we will fondly remember when we could still hear Sam Harris in small venues with reasonable ticket prices. ▼



Time is on Sam Harris' side.

Hooliganism

'Loot' at LaVal's in Berkeley

by Richard Dodds

Joe Orton's *Loot* remains a great piece of 1960s subversive playwrighting, with the most sacrosanct of icons getting skewered, pummeled, and generally worked over. Motherhood is turned on its head—literally—while the government, the church, and marriage all share in this public spanking. It's like Oscar Wilde in black leather.

The feisty Berkeley-based Shotgun Players are current presenting *Loot* in the intimately claustrophobic LaVal's Subterranean Theatre, and while it might seem like a good match, the play and its requirements are not fully within this production's grasp. But even with these deficiencies, the essences of what makes *Loot* a classic contemporary farce can still be appreciated.

The plot about a pair of bank robbers (Andy Alaban and Danny Wolohan) hiding their plunder in a coffin, while unceremoniously dumping the embalmed corpse into a cupboard, is really just a setup that lets Orton take aim at his various targets. That the deceased was the mother of one of the robbers and that her widowed husband (Greg Lucey) is now prey for an avaricious nurse (Renee Penegor) add fuel to Orton's savagery, as does a police detective (Jonathan Gonzalez) who tramples on rights as if they were ants at a picnic.

As with any farce, timing and style are vital, and the polish to deliver on these essentials is not always visible in director Reid Davis' fast-paced production. The performers all have moments when they make felicitous contact with the characters, connections that are not consistently maintained.

Matters are not helped by the technical limitations of the LaVal space, which can undermine some of the most basic of the play's visual gags. Even the costumes lacked a proper finesse, with the hem falling from the nurse's dress, a split bottom on the pants of the dead woman's son, and white paint on the back of his accomplice's suit.

The production has some added blatant physical gestures to punch up the undercurrents of homosexuality that Orton provided. But just because we can now have men kissing on stage doesn't mean we should. Orton seems much more provocative when seen within the constraints of the time in which he lived.

When the nurse observes to one of the boys that "even the sex you were born into isn't safe from your marauding," there is an obliqueness that requires a careful ear to catch the drift. But that's part of the roguish fun of Joe Orton. ▼

Loot will run through Aug. 26 at LaVal's Subterranean Theatre. Tickets are \$15. Call (510) 655-0813.

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Photo: David Allen



More naked than naked

SF Butoh Festival at Theater Artaud

by Michael Wade Simpson

International Butoh artist Katsura Kan was rehearsing with seven local dancers recently, asking the men to lie on their backs and use their bodies as percussion instruments. The dancers writhed and flopped like fish out of water, creating variations that were more painful-looking than percussive. Finally, after an exhausting five minutes of experimentation that drew grimaces and moans, he stopped them, and had one of the dancers demonstrate his choices. "This is sexual and weird," he said, quietly. "This movement is most interesting." And thus, the choreography was set.

Butoh, the Japanese dance form invented during a period of great artistic energy and experimentation after World War II, is usually known for its white-painted dancers, naked and contorted, creating images of despair and almost monster-movie grotesquerie. Indeed, the founder of the form, Tatsumi Hijikata, who died in 1986, wrote, "Butoh is the dead body standing straight up at the

risk of life." But he also said, "I use all my power to focus on my lost and wandering self."

Perhaps this essence is what has connected with San Francisco audiences. We do live, after all, in a land of lost and wandering selves. The San Francisco Butoh Festival, through August 5 at Theater Artaud, keeps growing bigger and more interesting year by year.

Kan, who has been performing Butoh for over 20 years, smiles when he reports that he is called a "traditional Butoh artist" on this program, as he considers himself second generation, someone who has developed a different style based on a background in Noh theatre, martial arts, gymnastics and literature. In his serviceable English, he describes whom he considers the traditionalists: "First generation, no technique, stand on stage, standing on the edge, asking fundamental questions."

Still, he understands that to look at him on stage is to see the traditional Butoh ghoul. "Young generation refuse to paint white," he says, "they think it's corny. From my point of view, painting white shows the essence or sub-

stance of [the] thing. I am seeking to become neutral on stage, more naked than naked. The young don't know."

Saucer tale

When asked what the Butoh form attempts to communicate, and how American audiences can "get" it, he says that what he has attempted to do, since 1979, is become a "UFO on stage." He tells the story of seeing a UFO in Kyoto and how that changed everything in his life. But beyond that image, he feels that Butoh has something very profound to offer those who can "relax, [and] don't seek meaning."

Like the UFO that you see but can't identify, Kan says his theatre of images can take the same place in your life. Like ghosts, which may or may not be with us all the time, guiding us, art and creativity may or may not be that same important force in our lives. We just don't know. "Artists are shaman ... my dance of darkness is like a trigger to open your reality," he says. "Art is a message from God."

San Francisco audiences will have a rare opportunity to sample many variations on Butoh. Venerable artists will include Kan and Kei Takei, a legendary figure in the dance world who spent years in the US taking in modern dance, ballet and American experimental art, but came into her own voice through Japanese form, creating an epic of 31 parts called *Light*.

Takei will perform an evening-length solo, *The Absence of Izanagi*, in which she shares themes with the legends of Persephone and Orpheus, but is herself a modern woman, a major artist. According to the *NY Times*, Takei



Legendary Butoh artist Kei Takei will perform in San Francisco.

is "uneasy, searching for something that should exist [but] doesn't exist."

On the other extreme, Butoh Festival organizer Brechin Flournoy has invited three up-and-coming groups to bring their "Japanese New Wave" energy onto the stage at Theater Artaud. Op.Eklekt, a performance art duo from Kyoto, will perform a satirical piece that looks at Japanese culture, and comments on institutions like the tea ceremony, the gift-giving tradition (*oseibo*), and tennis training. Nibroll is an 11-person multimedia art collective that will perform a 40-minute piece intercut with film called *No Parking*. Finally, Yan-Shu is a quartet of "Butoh-Pop" artists whose style is syncopated and humorous.

On the bill with Katsura Kan on Friday, August 3, will be Diego Piñón from Mexico City, a theatre artist who arrived at Butoh after a career studying everything from ritual theater to Gestalt therapy.

He travels the world teaching a form he calls "Butoh Mexicano, Ritual Dance."

A free performance at Ocean Beach will offer audiences a look at new work by local Butoh masters Koichi and Hiroko Tamano, whose company, Harupin-Ha, has been influential in the Bay Area since 1987. In their work they aim at internal space, at what they call "reflections of the inner cosmos." The Tamanos, a married couple, were commissioned by the festival to create a student performance. The piece will take place on Saturday, August 18, 2 p.m., Fulton Street at the Great Highway.

A moderated discussion with the artists of the festival will be held Sunday, August 5 at 2 p.m. ▼

The San Francisco Butoh Festival plays Theater Artaud through Sunday. Call (415) 621-7797, www.ticketweb.com, or TIX/Union Square.

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Schumacher

◀ Arts cover

Schneider hired Elton John and Tom Rice to write the songs for Disney's first stage musical not based on an animated predecessor. Then known as *Elaborate Lives*, it opened in Atlanta in 1998, where a balky high-tech pyramid became a symbol for the artistically confused retelling of the Egyptian legend that had also once inspired Giuseppe Verdi.

"When I looked at what was on stage, it wasn't the show that we wanted," Schumacher said. "Because of the way we had set up everyone's deals, I could say, 'Thanks guys, I'm going to make a change.' And I made a big change."

The show was shut down and most of the creative staff was let go as Schumacher pondered his options. To the surprise of many, he asked Robert Falls, the Chicago-based director of such serious fare as the recent revival of *Death of a Salesman*, to take over as director, who in turn brought in *M. Butterfly* playwright David Henry Hwang to provide the story with some more gravitas and yet still find a kind of happy ending to the tragic tale of a prince (Patrick Cassidy) who falls in love with a Nubian slave (the single-named Simone).

Walt's clout

Schumacher proudly calls himself a hands-on producer who comes up with ideas and then looks for the right creative people



Thomas Schumacher calls himself a hands-on producer.

to implement them. "I am delighted to have the resources of the Walt Disney Company because it means that a project that I'm excited about has a reasonable chance of getting seen," he said. "I'm working with Tina Landau on something we asked her to create using the canon of Disney music. We went to Julie Taymor and said what about *Pinocchio*? We went to Matthew Bourne and said what about *The Little Mermaid*? And that's just the stuff that everyone knows we're working on."

After Schumacher took *Aida* away from the original creative

team and reassembled a new group he felt would better serve the score Elton John and Tim Rice had created, the new and improved *Aida* took another hit when *New York Times* reporter Alex Witchel saw Elton John leave in a huff 20 minutes into a preview performance in New York. She reported this public transgression in an acerbic article that still ranks Schumacher.

"Here's an irony for you," Schumacher said. "Alex Witchel and her husband Frank Rich [the *Times*' former theater critic] are

next page ▶

THEATRE

There's got to be a morning after

'Mary in the Hydrangea Bush' debuts

by Richard Dodds

Joe Besecker, a busy gay playwright on local stages between 1984 and 1995, has re-emerged with a schizy new play titled *Mary in the Hydrangea Bush* at the Yugen/Noh Space. It's my first encounter with a Besecker work, and when not dipping into Gothic indulgences, *Mary* offers a sharply observed portrait of four characters dealing with their sexuality.

What sets off a series of morning-after introspections is a four-way take on the events of the night before, and with whom each individual is paired as they stumble into the living room the next morning creates yet another dynamic. Some of it is predictable; the two men are much more uptight than the two women about their shared intimacies. But Besecker can usually be counted on to deliver a fresh take on the situations he has created.

Each individual has his or her own take on the events of the night before, and with whom each individual is paired as they stumble into the living room the next morning creates yet another dynamic. Some of it is predictable; the two men are much more uptight than the two women about their shared intimacies. But Besecker can usually be counted on to deliver a fresh take on the situations he has created.

One of the two women happens to be a playwright, which leads to a Pirandellian conclusion that could have provided an intriguing extra spin had Besecker not tried to add several other extra spins that interrupt what he has so carefully set up.

It's difficult to explain what this is about, but it has something to do with an oddball twin brother, an obsession with Edgar Allen



Actress Danielle Thys, as Mary, hangs out in a hydrangea bush.

Poe, and the death of a young woman under a hydrangea bush many years before. Incest and murder are suggested, heavy topics that threaten to capsize what should be the main exercise of the piece.

Christopher Slater plays the strange brother with such hyper-creepy emoting that the audience didn't know whether the performance was meant to be comic or serious. After a few nervous titters, the group decided to err on the side of silence.

But the other performers are able to find truer underpinnings that well capture both the humor and seriousness of their unsettled

situations. Danielle Thys, Andi C. Trindle Walker, Ian Walker and Erik Kever Ryle all do fine work in a challenging progression of scenarios.

When director John Sowle is dealing with the various duets, his work, too, is strong, but he hasn't found a way to deal with the creepy brother/dead Mary mystery that Besecker has bravely, bizarrely, and, I'm afraid, wrong-headedly provided. ▼

Mary in the Hydrangea Bush will run at the Yugen/Noh Space through Aug. 19. Tickets are \$13-\$20. Call 626-6715.

Schumacher

◀ previous page

self-professed Disney-haters, and still they assign Alex to write the story on *Aida*. And who was assigned to write the story on *The Producers*? Mel Brooks! What's up with that?

But Schumacher also admitted that he chided John for decamping over his unhappiness with an arrangement for one song. "It's a bad thing to leave a preview, and I went to his hotel afterwards and told him it was damaging," Schumacher said. "It was a conflict, and we resolved it."

Schumacher has been good friends with John for nearly a decade, having worked with him first on both the screen and stage versions of *The Lion King*. He says being openly gay probably helped him create a bond with the demanding singer-songwriter. "I think it was startling to Elton that I was so open, because he had his own image of Disney," Schumacher said.

Moving pictures

Schumacher also had an image of Disney when his friend Peter Schneider (who recently left the company) invited him to join the animation division in 1988. "I said to him, 'I sense it's a pretty conservative place, and I won't hold back.' I've seen it change since I've

been here."

It was important to Schumacher when Disney added domestic-partner benefits in 1996, and he said that he probably would have left the company had that not happened. But while he lobbied for this change, he doesn't feel obliged to add gay characters or situations to any of the products over which he has control. "I think that's still a ways off," he said.

Schumacher, who is predicting one more "holy war" before gay people are accepted without notice in the media, is not at all sure a series like Showtime's *Queer as Folk* is helping the cause.

"Some people may find it titillating, but I don't think your first major statement should be, 'Now I'm going to commit a felony by having fantastically intimate sex with a high school student.' It undermines all the work we do to represent ourselves as we really are, which is a diverse group of people operating side by side with everyone else. I'm just this side of appalled that GLAAD would honor that show and still never once give an award to *In the Life*."

Schumacher in fact was featured in a segment of *In the Life*, the gay and lesbian newsmagazine that airs on PBS. Schumacher decided long ago that the best way for him to make his statements is to live openly as a gay man in social and corporate situations

where that is still an anomaly.

"I bring Matthew to everything," Schumacher said of Matthew White, a decorator and former ballet dancer who has been his partner for nearly 20 years. "I'm going to have lunch today with Roy Disney, and there is no question that he will say, 'How's Matthew?' We haven't ghettoized our lives."

Schumacher has obviously been lucky in love. He had his first boyfriend when he was still at Hillsdale High School in San Mateo. He also discovered his love of theater in those days. "The single greatest influence on my entire professional life was having season tickets at ACT," he said. "What William Ball was doing there in the '70s was mind-blowing."

Now he is making theater on an arguably mind-blowing level, and it must sometimes seem like a dream for this theater-loving gay kid from the Peninsula. "The thing that I pinch myself over is when Matt and I leave on vacation in two weeks to this little house we've rented in Italy, and our friends will gather. When you can gather with people you love and say, 'Look at us. We're all still alive and kicking, that's when I pinch myself.' ▼

Aida will run at the Orpheum Theatre through Sept. 1. Tickets are \$22.50-\$76.50. Call 512-7770.

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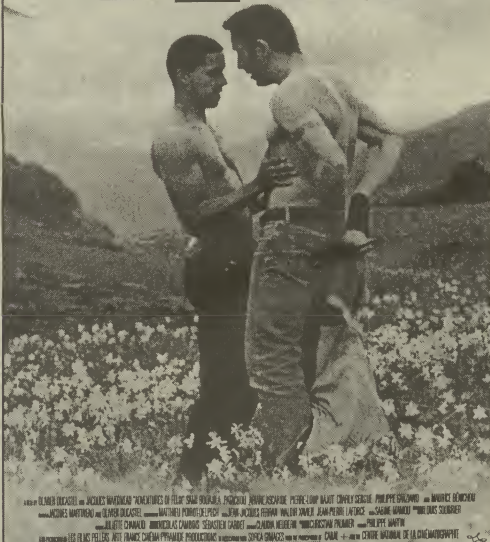
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The name is Bond. Jane Bond.

Agent 007's butch lesbian sister

by Tavo Amador

It's June, 1965. The S.O.B.s (Sons of Britain), headed by Lord Wooley-Booley, are planning to kidnap Queen Elizabeth II and replace her on the throne with the Duke of Windsor and his American divorcee Duchess. After all, it's time for England to be ruled once again by a man. How else can she be saved from the decadence exemplified by The Beatles?

Meanwhile, superagent 007, James Bond, is in a Swiss sanitarium, recovering from too many martinis, women, and missions. This is awkward, because Her Majesty will be awarding him the "Thanks, Awfully" Medal for his past services. She has indicated a strong desire to meet her most famous spy, and will not be amused

if he is not available on the assigned date.

What to do? Have Bond's somewhat butch lesbian sister, Jane, impersonate him at the ceremony. That's the decision that his boss, Sir Niles Needlum, known as "N," makes, assigning soon-to-retire agent 008, Cedric Pumpnickel, to handle the project. Fortunately, N's assistant, the cool and lovely Miss Tuppeny, is on hand to take care of saving the Queen from the S.O.B.s, and does so without the help — or knowledge — of her smug boss. Miss Tuppeny heads up the Powder Puff Girls, cosmetic saleswomen by day, lipstick-lesbian secret agents by night. She knows what's really going on and takes action.

This is the hilarious premise of Mabel Maney's laugh-out-loud novel, *Kiss the Girls and Make them Spy* (HarperEntertainment,

\$13). The author of the well-received *Nancy Clue and the Hardly Boys* mysteries, Maney here tackles Ian Fleming's eternally popular series with dazzling results.

Jane Bond works in a second-hand bookstore; has just been dumped by her beautiful blonde girlfriend, Astrid, who is threatening to take the house Jane inherited from her aunt; and is now living at The Flora Beaton Residential Hotel for Distressed Gentlewomen. She hasn't any money, drinks too much, and continues to fall in love with the wrong girl. She has not seen or heard from her older, famous brother in years. But, thanks to the money offered by closet-queen agent Pumpnickel, and artful seduction by a Powder Puff Girl, Jane finds herself in the middle of a most confusing situation. This confusion is only on Jane's part. The reader is too busy laughing and wondering how all the different plotlines are going to come together. But they do with subtlety, charm and wit.

Plumbing riches

Maney has a gift for creating characters with the deftness of the finest caricaturist, capturing the real person beneath the surface. Whether it is Miss Tessie Twigg, manager of the Flora Beaton; Ed-

wina Piggott, the plump heiress to the Piggott Plumbing fortune, and now the naive wife of Lord Reginald Wooley-Booley; Simon Crispin, the gay owner of the bookstore employing Jane; or poor agent Pumpnickel, whose specialty is Desk Accessories, the reader is impressed by each one's individuality. Bringing sympathy to satirical characters is not easy, but Maney does so with aplomb.

Those of us who lived through the '60s will attest to the way Maney recreates the decade, cap-

turing its excitement and absurdities with a vivid humor that is never condescending, but often affectionate. Her dialogue is pointed and witty. Her descriptions set the stage for the reader's imagination. She writes with breathtaking pace, yet never seems to be skimping. She also pokes fun at the technowizardry gizmos that were the hallmarks of the Bond novels and films. The marvelous Powder Puff Girls use cosmetics in ways never imagined by Revlon or Max Factor.

Most importantly, she makes you care about Jane. You want her to get her life together — romantically and otherwise. You laugh with her but not at her, except when Jane laughs at herself. Somehow, and this is what raises the story beyond simple satire, Maney makes a real person out of Jane — makes her someone you want to spend time with, someone you like.

Personally, I hope Agent 007 never leaves that Swiss sanitarium, so that Jane Bond can come to Her Majesty's rescue again, guided, of course, by the glamorous Miss Tuppeny and her remarkable, lovely, lesbian Powder Puff Girls. Among other things, *Kiss the Girls and Make them Spy* could initiate a renewed popularity for Hot Pink lipstick and Carnaby Street suits. ▼




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Summer camp

by James Piechota

Tricks of the Trade by Ben Tyler
Any Kind of Luck by William Jack Sibley
Both Kensington Press, \$23

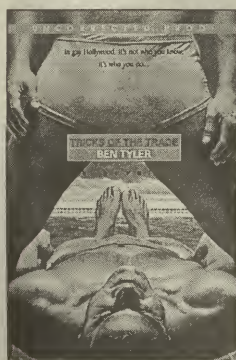
Whether your idea of the ultimate summer break is sweating it out at Miami Beach, dodging dirty syringes under Santa Monica Pier, or floating aimlessly amidst the sea of neon bikini-ed men of Dolores Park, there's a few recently published books that should complete your ensemble.

Both are released by Kensington Books, an intrepid publishing imprint that has recently been siphoning the backlog of gay male fiction titles that probably had a difficult time finding a home at larger houses like Alyson or Grove Press.

Fans of frothy, campy material will be pleased, as both books have lots of hilarious characters and provide breezy but comically entertaining plots that don't strain the brain.

The cover for Ben Tyler's *Tricks of the Trade* screams Gay Sex right off bookstore shelves, and this sarcastic, queasily romp through Gay Hollywood certainly name-drops without batting an eyelash. They always say "write what you know," and interestingly enough, Tyler is actually a pseudonym for a writer who currently works for a major family studio empire. Sounds like a Mickey Mouse operation to me.

Tyler's oeuvre follows Sterling Studios' copywriter and West Hollywood human mattress Bart Cain,



who attempts to thwart his homophobic boss "Scary Shari" Draper's attempts to dethrone the gay president of motion-picture marketing.

While on a break from being his company's gay underdog, Bart surfs AOL and winds up romancing hunky Rodrigo Dominguez (screen name "Rotoroot4U"), a struggling screenwriter/ bartender/ hustler who steals his heart. Hoping to shop Rod's script "Blind as a Bat" to people in the "glitz biz," Bart takes Rod to an A-list party hosted by immaculate television sitcom Dad Jim Fallon. Jim's a "wholesome" Robert Reed kind of character whose career has recently been irreparably damaged by the discovery of a homemade S&M porn video. He quickly steals Rod away, promising to produce his script and hoping to overshadow the scandal of his exposed personal life. Hilarious nonstop cultural references

and snappy dialogue right out of *Will & Grace* sweep this one right into the beach bag.

True Grit

Just as enticing and nutty, though a bit more tempered in the drama department, is William Jack Sibley's debut *Any Kind of Luck*, an energetic frenzied take on boyfriends Clu and Chris, who relocate to "culturally eviscerated" Grit, Texas from Manhattan to tend to Clu's ailing mother, Bettie Jean. She's an accomplished Chihuahua breeder and just one of the spicy, endearing characters who populate the story.

Preston, the blond, muscle-bound son of Oveta Canfield, Grit's resident busybody, tempts Chris with mind and body, and ends up making him lust after the Manhattan lifestyle he's left behind.

More than once, Sibley pushes the "We're Here, We're Queer" envelope in Clu's reintegration with the local "backward hicks" a bit too heavily.

Wildly funny at times, yet overplayed in others, both books try way too hard to squeeze originality from the dry sponge of gay fiction, yet together still manage to produce some charming material. They're not the stuff of rocket science — or of Michael Cunningham, for that matter — but they intermingle nicely with sand and surf (or the J-Church train) and will certainly make you giddy, an emotion we could use a bit more of these days.

Just get me my shades and a martini, a summer read will do the rest. ▼

BOOKS

Poets and pests in our midst

by Deborah Peifer

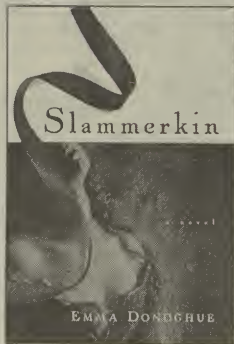
There are people who write poetry, and then there are poets, a breed apart and above and beyond mere versifiers. Daphne Gottlieb is a poet whose first collection, *Pelt*, only hinted at the extraordinary writer she was to become. Her newest collection, *Why Things Burn* (Soft Skull, \$12), contains writing of unimaginable power and pain. In "the Jewish atheist mother has her say," anti-Semitism is succinctly defined: "baby, there is no/ god but/ they'll kill you/ for him."



Gottlieb has more on her mind than rage, although her rage is palpable when she writes about rape and abuse. In the lovely and courageous "letting it happen," she explores, among others things, new love. "That day, that day we had our first real date, ... if real is what I called the frightening urge to introduce you to my mother..." Gottlieb uses language as a weapon, as a shield, as a means to communicate at levels far deeper than ordinary speech. *Why Things Burn* will tear your heart out, even as it fills your soul with wonder.

Readers reel

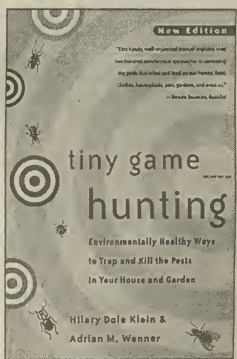
The American publication of Emma Donoghue's extraordinary novel *Slammerkin* (Harcourt, \$24) is cause, dear readers, for dancing in the streets, but only if you are able to read while dancing. If not, read first, then gambol away. Based on a snippet of history, that in 1764 a young woman named Mary Saunders murdered her employer and was hanged for it, *Slammerkin* is the poignant story of how Mary might have



gotten to the gibbet. Donoghue is an historian (*We Are Michael Field*) as well as a superb writer of fiction (*Hood, Kissing the Witch*), and when she combines those talents, the result is historical fiction that is both entertaining and thought-provoking. Donoghue creates an authentic 18th-century London, and populates it with unforgettable characters. *Slammerkin* is a magnificent novel, a pleasure to read and recommend.

Nature calls

Nature, Dave Barry says, is that which, if it gets in your house, you kill it. Just in time for the summer influx of critters, the University of California offers *Tiny Game Hunting: Environmentally Healthy Ways to Trap and Kill the Pests in Your House and Garden* by Hilary Dole Klein and Adrian M. Wenner (\$14.95). Klein and Wenner do a fine job of explaining why the pests invade and what we can do to



chase them out, or keep them from entering in the first place. The layout of the book is clarity itself, and the text is readable and extremely entertaining. The section on cockroaches gave me a shudder, but I suspect that's because of the roaches, not the writing.

For the nature you don't want to kill, but would like to identify, *Trees and Shrubs of California* by John D. Stuart and John O. Sawyer (University of California, \$22.50) is a very handy little tome, filled with color photos and fascinating facts about our native flora. Line drawings of leaf shapes and edges will have you distinguishing between live oak and poison oak in a flash.



Short reports

Ellen Orleans is a seriously funny observer of the life lesbian, and her latest book, *The Inflation Butch* (Alyson, \$12.95), is hilarious. Her thoughts on the newest lesbian craze, "Poly Wants a Lover," are astute and painful. She explains the problem with polyamory: "On top of the jealousy, hurt, and damaged egos, how do you work through all the nuanced interpretations, the immeasurable I-thought-you-meant? Frankly, polyamory looks like processing hell." Pity the woman — she went to Michigan for some wild sex in the woods, and managed to hit on the only straight woman in the crowd. Orleans reminds us just

how much fun it is to be a dyke, and just how funny we are.

I can imagine one single reason for reading *The Question of Sabotage: A Festival Tale* by Bonnie J. Morris Bella, \$11.95. If you are tempted to go the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, Morris' description of the humorless

hordes, the cold showers and the awful food will surely convince you that anything would be more fun than a weekend in these woods with these women. Morris wrote the very en-

tertaining history of women's music festivals, *Eden Built by Eves*, but her foray into fiction is flat and tuneless.

At A Different Light, Donna McKechnie, who originated the role of Cassie in *A Chorus Line*, discusses the play, her life, and her return to the stage in her one-woman show on August 13, 7:30 p.m.

Also at ADL, Golden Girl Bea Arthur converses with Jan Wahl on August 21, 7:30 p.m. Get your best wig out, because a Golden Girl lookalike contest follows the interview, with the divine Ms. Arthur as judge.

Call for submissions

Felice Newman (*The Whole Lesbian Sex Book*) is writing a new book, and she needs your expertise. *The Whole Women's Sex Book* will feature brief, anonymous quotes from a diverse array of women addressing all aspects of women's sexuality. "I'm asking your help in reaching women who would like complete a confidential questionnaire. Their input will make this a great resource, one that will provide encouragement and support to thousands of women. *The Whole Women's Sex Book* will be comprehensive, positive, sexy, and helpful, and will reflect the concerns of all women: heterosexual, lesbian, and bisexual, young and old, partnered and single, trans and traditionally gendered, sexually experienced and new to sexual exploration." If you would like to fill out a confidential questionnaire, contact fnewman@cleispress.com.

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'Lumumba' plays the Castro Theatre

by Gary Morris

Legendary political figures — not to say martyrs like Patrice Lumumba — don't

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always make the best subjects for films. Credibly capturing the human drama against a backdrop of historical change is usually too daunting for all but the most dogged agitprop artist, hagiographer, or Hollywood hack. And with a man like Lumumba, there's always that pesky added problem of having to show Western audiences a squalid, thuggish past they would prefer not to acknowledge. Lumumba, like many a nationalist working to free his country from European and American colonialism, was murdered soon after becoming Prime Minister of the former Belgian Congo, now Zaire. While some of the details remain a little foggy, he was by all accounts another victim of the ever-industrious CIA in league with local reactionaries happy to dispatch one of their own — along with their country — for personal gain and in the name of anti-Communism.

Director Raoul Peck, educated in Haiti, Zaire, and France, has tackled Lumumba twice now — once in 1990 in a documentary, and now in a brisk, often riveting feature film that opens Friday at the Castro Theatre. *Lumumba* navigates with surprising success the dicey territory between idolatrous biography and whirlwind historical drama. While it would certainly help in terms of understanding the players to read up on this complex history, it may be just as useful to sacrifice a few of the details and surrender to the power of the story.

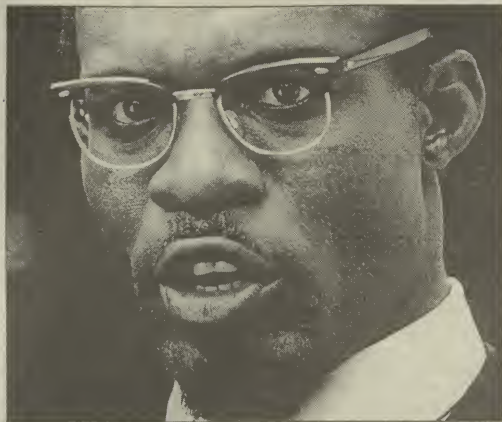
The credit sequence is a casually unsettling panorama of historical photographs that recall Belgium's 80-year rule of the Congo — white Belgians in plush digs and fancy duds being guarded by stiff, staring locals, or as-

sembled in front of the barely noticeable body of a lynched Congolese. The story proper extends this grim tableau with a creepy coda to its subject's life, as the bodies of Lumumba and two of his allies are hacked to pieces and burned by two drunken Belgian soldiers under orders to leave no trace of the men. (It's worth noting that one of these soldiers later went insane.) This daring approach to structuring Lumumba's rise and fall sets the tone for the whole film, which is more episodic than linear and flashes backward and forward with the same sense of urgency and chaos that marked the martyred leader's brief life.

Independence days

Lumumba's education and radicalization coincided with worldwide attempts to shake off colonial masters. Self-educated, he went from beer salesman ("Polar, the queen of beers!") to political prisoner to Prime Minister with breathless speed. The film tracks this progression in vivid vignettes that show both Lumumba's charisma, which created instant crowds and mobilized average citizens to follow him in demanding independence; and his tenuous position as the local police and military, serving Belgian interests, jail and brutalize him.

What's most fascinating about the film is the dizzying series of maneuvers among the competing interests trying to take control of the ore-rich nation: other tribal groups like Moise Tshombe's; a splintered military; the Belgians who can't let go; the CIA and US government that want their part; the Soviets, who also smell profit; the UN, which quietly backs Belgium; and most tellingly, Lu-



Eriq Ebouaney powerfully embodies Patrice Lumumba of the Congo.

mumba's liberation group, which is under constant threat from its own leaders — Joseph Kasa Vubu, who gives a grimly fawning speech for Belgian ears when he's elected President; and military leader Joseph Mobutu, a key player in Lumumba's death who would go on to become a world-class despot. Peck renders this battle of wills with tremendous authority in schizoid scenes of the army attacking both white Belgian settlers and the black leadership; in quiet entries and exits of CIA and Belgian functionaries; and in increasingly ominous encounters between Lumumba and his enemies, both Belgian and black African.

Lumumba's desperation is beautifully crystallized in a sequence in which he attempts to stop small factions of marauding bandits from a rape-and-pillage campaign. Traveling by light plane, he attempts to land in Tshombe's territory but is refused; when he demands that the pilot land anyway, the pilot balks, saying he's received "other orders." From here, Lumumba's decline is precipitous and horrific. A mere two months after his ascension to

office, he was murdered and mutilated, in January 1961, and the country was seized by "father-king" Mobutu, who would continue amassing vast wealth and destroying his country until the late 1990s.

Eriq Ebouaney (*L'Agression, Seventh Heaven*) powerfully embodies both the charisma and the limitations of Lumumba's my-way-or-the-highway attitude. (Some commentators have assigned part of the blame for his demise to Lumumba's uncompromising personality.) Alex Descas' incarnation of Mobutu is also chillingly effective, a smiling mask of soft-spoken cooperation who murders a man and a nation without fanfare. Inevitably there are less-heralded victims in such a story, among them Lumumba's wife and family, who are marginalized in the film. Perhaps this simply reflects how it was with a man of Lumumba's ambitions. At any rate, Peck's interests, like Lumumba's, lay elsewhere in this superior example of a difficult genre. ▼

Lumumba plays the Castro Theatre August 3-9.

A fresh look at Henry Moore

At the California Palace of the Legion of Honor

by Will Shank

The shadow of Henry Moore (1898-1986) looms large over the history of 20th-century sculpture, both in his native England and worldwide. The Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco have mounted an exhibition organized by the Dallas Museum of Art, the first major US retrospective of his work in 20 years. *Henry Moore: Sculpting the 20th Century* runs through September 16 at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, its only West Coast venue before it moves on to the National Gallery of Art in the fall.

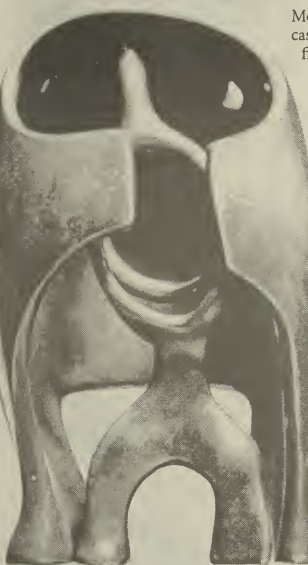
Moore's early work was ridiculed by some critics during his first exhibitions in the early 1930s. ("A monstrosity... of sculpture by Mr. Henry Moore, which surpassed in repulsiveness even that of [Jacob] Epstein," wrote the *Daily Mirror* in April 1931 of his Leeds *Reclining Figure*.) But by the time of his death at age 88, Moore was one of the most revered citizens of the United Kingdom, widely praised by critics and public alike for his innovative (and sensuous, in a very non-British way) forms. So great was his fame that his work suffered from over-

exposure in the many international retrospectives held during the last years of his life, and posthumously. The organizers of this exhibition believe that the time is now right for a fresh look.

Before you even enter the building, you succumb to the visual power of Moore's large-scale bronze sculptures, several of which surround Rodin's permanently installed *The Thinker* in the outdoor atrium of the Legion. After you descend to the lower-floor exhibition (be warned: there is a \$2 "surcharge"), the long and thoughtful road that led Moore to the creation of such monoliths slowly reveals itself.

A Yorkshire coal-miner's son, the young artist was encouraged by his poor but literate parents to become a teacher, but Moore showed early promise as an artist, eventually pursuing local opportunities such as Miss Gostick's Peasant Pottery Class and the Leeds School of Art, where he was the only sculpture student. Already a veteran of World War I at age 23, he landed a scholarship to the Sculpture School of London's Royal College of Art. The rest is history.

The great joy of a lifetime ret-



The Helmet, 1939-40

rospective is, of course, to see where famous artists came from before they were famous, and

Moore's early career is a textbook case of a talented young man who first copies others, and then creates his own derivative forms, until his own distinctive style blossoms forth. The journey is a fascinating one in Moore's case, and several rarely-seen early works show him being inspired by pre-Columbian sculpture (a 1930 *Reclining Woman* closely resembles a Toltec *chacmool*). A *Mother and Child* drawing from 1924 echoes Picasso's contemporary neo-classical period, and other works on paper from the 1930s have much of the passionless-figures-in-a-generic-interior of Giorgio De Chirico about them.

The Surrealist movement, in fact, dominates his forms, if not his subject matter, throughout the '30s, and his work resonates with the best of Dali and Miró. Still, as early as the '30s, Moore's work pushes away from his Surrealist brethren toward abstraction. A flattened marble head (*Carving*) from 1936 appears almost Cycladic, reflecting Moore's study of primitive art

page 40 ►

TELEVISION

When apes met dinosaurs

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Oh those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer! We can't remember a summer when reruns were so, well, *passé*. The networks are so fearful of the dueling competition of summer cable premieres and summer film blockbusters that they have finally realized audiences want new shows all year long. Thus this summer's staggered network scheduling, in which new programs are premiering every few weeks.

Unfortunately, most of the new shows this summer are, as the French say so delicately and succinctly, *merde*. Take, for example, CBS's *Big Brother 2*, which debuted two weeks ago. We admit, we hated *BBI*. The people were tedious, the discourse stultifying, the set creepy, the tasks stupid, and the peep-show tone always made us feel like voyeurs. We were surprised that *BBI* could be worse than its progenitor.

The show has kept the bitchy Julie Chen with her shut-up-and-sit-down-you-pigs dominatrix style as hostess, no doubt in an effort to compete with Anne Robinson's *Weakest Link* in the same time slot. We wouldn't have thought it humanly possible for the new cast to be more boring than the last, and yet they are, despite having not one but two guys (Justin and Mike) with arrest records, a fact that slipped past the producers doing the vetting process but not the reporters at *Access Hollywood*. Justin got the ax first after "playfully" pulling a knife on another house member. The second guest to be kicked out was Autumn, maintaining the tradition of exiling people of color post-haste.

The only real change in the show is that now, instead of the viewers deciding by phone calls, the housemembers vote each other off. We appreciate saving the \$99 per call to vote off those we hated most, but that was the most interesting element of the show. Meanwhile, in a sucker-is-born-every-minute ploy, CBS is charging online viewers who inexplicably want to watch the 24/7 webcast a \$9.95-per-month fee. We hope CBS execs aren't expecting to start a 401K with the proceeds. We'll be surprised if they can keep the house chickens in feed.

Thriller hype

Fox's much-touted reality show *Murder in Small Town X* debuted this week to terrible ratings, despite the hype and the fact that the show is fairly engaging. The premise is *Blair Witch Project* meets *Murder She Wrote*. Contestants try to solve murders. Each week, two contestants go off to stake out separate sites. Only one returns. The first contestant to go (surprise, she's black) said it was quite scary, even though it was a game. If you like thrillers, this is by far the best of the reality shows this summer.

The Fox show has had the most dissing from critics for its hyper-realism, with many saying it goes too far. We found it far less disturbing than *Fear Factor*, and much less degrading for the contestants than either *FF* or *Weakest Link*.

If thrills and chills don't turn you on, NBC premiered *The*

Downer Channel this week, a kind of *Laugh-In* for the 21st century produced by smart-guy funnyman Steve Martin. Ratings sucked, but the show is quite amusing. Veteran comedians appear in the sketches; the premiere featured Steve Wright, Terri Garr and Fred Willard, all heavyweights of comedy. Catch it quick, though — ratings may force it off before its time.

The best comedy/reality show of the summer remains *You Don't Know Jack*. Sight gags keep it fresh, and Paul Reubens' hosting is consistently hilarious, proving one can have a

comeback, so to speak, from public sex scandals. Does this mean a future in TV for Bill Clinton, Gary Condit, Newt Gingrich and — oh, the list is just too long. Our favorite "Dis or Dat" segment last week: pairing exorcism and circumcision. Brilliant.

Speaking of guys who break free of their sexy pasts, we had to chuckle over *Conan O'Brien's* regular schtick of morphing two celebrities to see what their off-spring might look like. When he paired Mark "Marky Mark" Wahlberg of *Planet of the Apes* with ape-girl Helena Bonham-Carter, their spawn? Ben Stiller. We know you can see it.

Vintage bigotry

Speaking of people acting like animals, one of the few reruns we've watched this summer was an episode of *Oprah*, who is devoting Fridays to "vintage" *Oprah*, shows she's aired over — can it really be almost 20 years? This Friday was a town meeting she held in 1987 in Williamson, West Virginia, population 5,600. A citizen of the town, Mike Cisco, had been literally run out of the public pool because he had AIDS.

The show was startling (it repeats tomorrow late-night; check listings). In 1987, AIDS had been in the news for just over five years. Misinformation abounded. Cisco, a gay man in his late 20s, told how local police had come to his sister's house and warned of imminent arrest if he didn't curtail his behavior. Residents claimed he was going to salad bars and supermarkets and spitting in the food.

Residents spoke of their hatred and disgust of homosexuals and AIDS. Several men seemed on the verge of violence, while one woman, a neighbor of Cisco's family, told of her fears that while she was pregnant he might scratch or bite her. And in the midst of this all-white sea of incredible bigotry and hate stood Oprah, calmly asking where was their so-called Christian compassion, while also giving the facts about transmission.

The show reminded us of how important Oprah has been in addressing serious social issues, and how compelling is her ability to reach across race, class and other barriers. The show also was an important historical document. Those too young to remember what the early days of the epidemic were like should see it. Those who have forgotten just how virulent the fear was should also view it. And those who keep saying HIV/AIDS is over should view it for a reality check.

Speaking of things historical, 20/20 *Prime Time* aired an inter-

view last week with world-champion figure skater Katerina Witt. Witt, who won two Olympic gold medals and ranks as one of the most provocative female skaters ever, grew up in then-East Germany. After unification, it was revealed how many "valuable" citizens had been spied upon by the secret police. Witt's files date back to the age of seven and include everything from what she ate while on tour to whom she bedded and how. Witt has petitioned the current government to seal the secret dossiers on her — a total of 35,000 pages. The court will rule sometime before summer's end. The press wants the records made public.

ABC's Elisabeth Vargas interviewed Witt, asking why she didn't want the records open. Witt, at times struggling against tears, tried to explain how the files were a terrible assault on her privacy. Vargas countered that if she had nothing to hide, it shouldn't matter if they became public. Witt, once known for her passionate outbursts, was amazingly controlled as she tried to explain how the secret police had used her friends and colleagues to garner information about her. But in the end she was unable to articulate what Americans simply never understand in these days of Reality TV: Not everyone wants to parade their linen, dirty or otherwise, in front of the world.

Graham crackers

Finally, we must pay tribute to Katharine Graham, who died 10



Katharine Graham in 1966.

days ago. Graham grew up in a rarefied world of privilege, but tragedy forced her into a different world. Her husband, publisher of the *Washington Post*, suffered from bipolar disorder before there were decent treatments, at a time when mental illness was spoken of only in whispers. He told her one

afternoon he was going downstairs for a bit and then blew his brains out in the powder room, leaving her with four children and the newspaper that had been in her family for generations.

There were no women news moguls. Graham was the iconoclast. The *Post* had never been a good paper. Her decision to publish the Pentagon Papers changed that. Her concomitant decision to investigate Watergate altered the course of American history.

At one point during Watergate she asked her editor Ben Bradlee, "If this story is so good, why isn't anyone else doing it?" The answer became self-evident. No one else had the kind of guts Katherine Graham had.

Journalist Carl Bernstein told a story on *Nightline* last week. During Watergate, then-Attorney General John Mitchell told Bernstein, "If Katie Graham prints this, you tell her she'll find her tit in a wringer." Bernstein went to Bradlee, who said, "Print everything except her tit." The next day Graham asked Bernstein if there were any more messages from Mitchell about her tit.

Graham died admired by all who knew her. At her memorial service, she was eulogized by those who loved her as well as those she had taken to task, like Henry Kissinger. Graham was tough, honest, professional and willing to take tremendous risks. Her guts changed journalism and American history. We will not see her journalistic like again. And aren't we the worse for it. ▼

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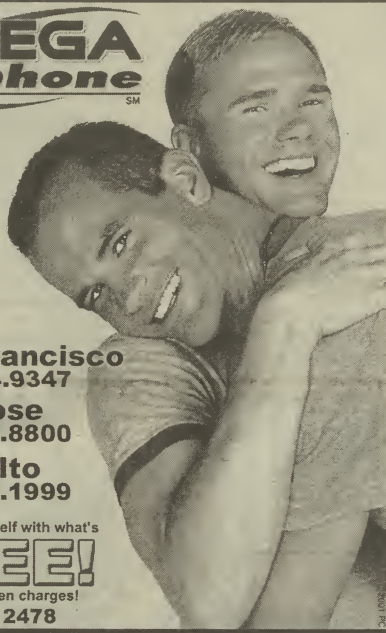
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Leather tits, titles and trash

by Mister Marcus

From Fort Lauderdale to San Francisco (with a pit stop in Denver), the leather community celebrated its lifestyle in blazing glory last weekend. On the other side of the continent, in Fort Lauderdale, there was the Ms. Sunshine State Leather 2001. Closer to home, in Denver, there was "Thunder in the Mountains" with the selection of Mr. and Ms. Rocky Mountain Leather. Here in San Francisco, we had the Leather Daddy XIX contest, the SOMA Bare Chest Calendar Reunion party, and the selection of Northern California Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy, plus the Dore Alley Fair. The attendance at the fair was estimated to be close to 13,000 — another record-breaking party — and all the other events garnered huge crowds, which translates into big bucks for beneficiaries.

First things first: On Thursday, July 26, the Drummer Men and Boys created baskets for auction at Daddy's, to benefit the travel fund for the eventual winner. Mr. North Coast Leather T. Jay Cain, the auctioneer, threw several acerbic cuts at various individuals in the audience. Tsk-Tsk. Almost \$3,000 was raised.

Davolt's glory

On Friday night at the Eagle, three men — Robert Davolt, Tony Koester and Will van Hemert — faced judges Tom Rodgers, Robert Dern, Keith Truitt, Loren Berthelson and Steve Gaynes. Now, a judges' job is to pick a man who demonstrates "leadership" potential, or who already has a track record. From the tenor of the on-stage questions, observers felt the judges were more intent on learning the sexual proclivities of each. Naughty naughty.

Solomon Rose belted out his signature contest song, "Luck Be A Lady Tonight," along with other show-stoppers, and later Donna Sachet serenaded outgoing Daddy Keith Truitt, while TJ Istvan and Sheba performed a solo each, and then joined voices for a great duet.

Keith Truitt's stepping aside

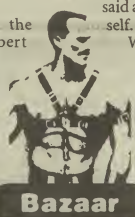

Bazaar


Photo Credit

For the third year in a row, the Russian River Drummer entries took the Northern California Drummer 2001 titles at King St. Garage last Saturday night, July 28. Standing is Robert Espindola, and kneeling is Boy David. They will advance to compete at the International Drummer finals in Florida in October.

speech lasted only nine and a half minutes and was full of praise for the community and its support for all his fundraising efforts. He said almost nothing about himself. Bravo!

When it all ended at shortly after midnight, Robert Davolt grabbed the gold ring and is now SF Leather Daddy XIX. If he continues the tradition of his predecessors, he will be counted among leather men who have "made a difference."

SoMa bare chests on display

Last Saturday, also at the Eagle (a hopping place these days), another record-breaking crowd came out to see about 95 men who have been on the SoMa Bare Chest Calendar since the first 1985 edition. Four emcees kept the affair going with many camp awards, while Mr. SF Leather Houston Davenport signed the whole thing. Among many who trooped to the stage to heap ac-

plades on everyone involved with the calendar was Supervisor Mark Leno, who presented a certificate of honor to the SMMILE Board for their efforts. While all the men were beaming for a photo opportunity, Ross Dierking and co-chair Tom Rodgers beamed at the success of their work and all their volunteers.

Drummers in paradise

Also on the Left Coast Saturday night, four men and three "boys" competed for the Northern California Drummer titles at King St. Garage, the second time this contest was held there. Tom Stice was absolutely delightful as the emcee, with Houston Davenport again signing the entire show. Tom managed to heap accolade after accolade upon our city's leather community, which endeared him to the huge audience.

The delightful Jo Carol opened the show with upbeat sounds, and after a stirring parade of colors, the business at hand got underway. The contestants delivered speeches, fantasies, and the ever-

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, August 2

The 100th Big Basket contest at the Edge, with Danny Williams the pecker checker. Also a \$7 beer/soda bust beginning at 2000. Previous dicks-of-death are encouraged to enter again.

Weekend August 3-5

Southwest Drummer and Boy contest in Phoenix. Call 602-254-9051.

Ocean State Leather weekend in Providence, Rhode Island, featuring Mr. and Ms. Ocean State Leather at Union St. Station on Saturday night.

Visiting Chicago? It's Upper Halsted Market Days, a wild street fair. Drop into the world famous Cell Block for a libation or two.

LOBOC Motorcycle Club's "Fractured Fairy Tales" weekend bike run at Col. Allensworth State Historic Park and featuring maidens, fairy godmothers, wolves and pigs.

Saturday, August 4

San Franciscans MC free chuckwagon picnic, from noon to 1500, at the 14th Ave. Meadows in Golden Gate Park on JFK Drive.

Sunday, August 5

Mama is having a \$7 beer/soda bust at Daddy's, from 1600-2000, with entertainment, raffles and auctioning off that "electric chair" from the ACLC contest a few weeks ago. It's all to benefit the Leather Pride Walk during Leather Pride Week in September. Be there!

Wednesday, August 8

New England Drummer and Boy contest at the Boston Ramrod on Saturday night, with other fun stuff before and after.

In New York City, the Eulenspiegel Society celebrate their 30th anniversary all weekend. Congratulations!

"100 Men in the Woods" weekend run by the Pocono Warriors MC. For details, email jkeane54@aol.com.

Saturday, August 11:

Cigar, dungeon and wrestling party at Castlebar tonight. Call 970-9700 or click on www.castlebar.com/stock.html.

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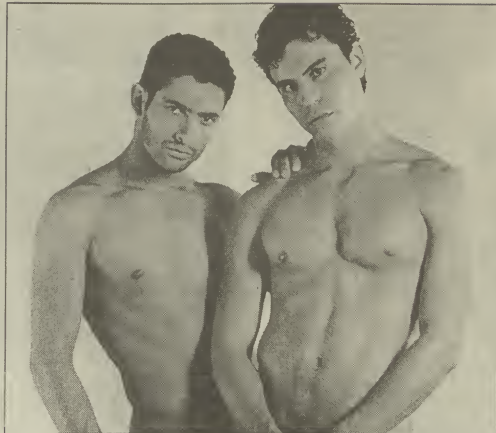
Spanish fly

by John F. Karr

Barcelona Bound, a new video from Studio 2000, was causing a feeding frenzy at the video store, where people were putting their names on a reservation list so they could get their hands on it. Since I prefer to be in the know, I quickly acquired a copy, although I was skeptical. I've been none too keen about the recent popularity of European porn. I get worked up over the German boys you see in Cazzo Films, but the boys in those Czech and Hungarian things are rarely more than beautiful robots. Still, one does expect a certain *caliente* from Spanish boys. And the guys in *Barcelona Bound* made me jump out of my tereador pants. (You heard right. Martha Stewart told me to spice up my porn viewing with simple *accoutrements* I could find right in my home. For instance, when watching those hunkering Hungarians, put some paprika in the lubel!)

Maybe I should have kept my tereador pants on. The first three scenes of *Barcelona Bound* almost exactly duplicated those Czech movies, particularly several by Jan Novak, which curiously were also released by Studio 2000. There's way too much introductory material, too much touristy stuff — in this one, you feed the pigeons in the plaza. There's stupid dialogue, delivered in woodenly acted voiceovers, and worst of all, there isn't any sex for eight interminable minutes. And when it starts, so does the movie's single piece of pseudo-Spanish muzak, which plays nonstop for 90 minutes. Holiday in Spain, my ass. It's Chinese water torture on the soundtrack!

Still, the boys grow more impressive in each succeeding scene. In the first one, a massive construction worker is fucked by a priest. The former is a stunningly



Rafael Carreras and Lucas Fox make for a spicy paella in Barcelona.

muscled Kristen Bjorn type, with a panoramic chest, and tits that positively spring off the tips of it. He doesn't remove his yellow safety helmet when giving head, and to get closer to his supplicant, the priest thoughtfully turns the brim to the back. Then there's a three-way at the wine merchant's shop. The guys have thrilling bon-

ers, and

enter

them into

a potentially hair-raising fuck. But they comport themselves like showroom dummies, re-arranging themselves at precise intervals in a series of revealing yet lifeless tableau.

There's a scene with a matador, followed by one that matches a sailor with a street performer. The Michelin Guide gives their highest rating to these guys and the boners they sport. I'm beginning to wonder if these men are a representative sampling of Spaniards — could they all be hung like Puerto Ricans? I think this may be so. My friend Juan has a big penis,

and he's from Madrid. Still, it doesn't matter somehow, because the movie's so airless. The relentless and inappropriate music, the plodding filmcraft, the editing that jumps rudely to sex acts one, two, and three, instead of expanding through a continuity of sexuality — all these are distancing. It's not the boys; they're fine. It's the direction of the once-estimable John Travis, who here seems to be imitating Jan Novak, his *doppelganger* in the company's Czech division.

Even so, the video gets better as it progresses. And suddenly, in the Big Finale, featuring the two top-billed performers, we stumble upon Art and Passion and Fireworks! Two dark-haired beauties devour each other's improbably long dongs with gusto, and fuck like it's the end of the world, and the director relays it organically, with trust. So although the going was disappointing at first, the last scene's a big *olé*. I'll spare you any further Spanish clichés, only venturing to say of these boys that they're so easily assimilated. ▼

www.studio2000video.com



Karnal Knowledge

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

popular jock competition. Club Townsend owner Audrey Joseph, though not present due to medical problems, was awarded the first-ever Philip Turner Star Award — a beautiful crystal trophy presented for her dedication and loyalty to not only leather people, but to the entire LGBT community. The reward was well deserved.

Co-producers Bob Brunson and Graylin Thornton managed to thank everyone associated with the production; the only flaw was the spotlight person, who was very, very unclear on the concept. Nevertheless Drummer men Mike Marrero (Alameda County), Robert Espandola (Russian River), James Holloway (San Francisco) and Abe Feuerstein (Sacramento) — handsome specimens all — were presented with their Drummer Boys: Boy Andrew, Boy Jack, and Boy Jackson.

In my long experience as a judge of leather contests, I have rarely seen a fantasy in which the audience was turned on by an erotic message, but that was the case with Mr. Russian River Drummer Robert Espandola. His fantasy was well conveyed, with the perfect music, and it obviously impressed

the judges. When tally master Tim Wong delivered the results to the stage, Robert Espandola was named Mr. Northern California Drummer, and Boy Andrew was named the Drummer Boy.

It was the third time the Russian River contestants swept the titles. Bedlam in the house as Russian River leather people exploded with pride. Robert and Andrew travel to St. Petersburg, Florida in October to compete for the International titles. I will be there judging and we wish them well.

Dore Alley fare

Sunday, July 29 dawned gray, foggy and cold; at 11:09 a.m. the sun burst forth, but the wind refused to slow down. It wasn't hot, and it wasn't cold; a mild, coolish day for the almost 13,000 people who flocked to one of the biggest "hometown" parties on the leather circuit. There were play parties galore, many fundraisers, and lots of people getting to know each other. Even Tony Shenton, one of the founders of Hot Ash from Brooklyn, New York, was here as the founders of Mr. Deaf Leather. The SF-Chapter of the Men of Discipline were all over the place as well. Food, beer, cocktails, leather goods, and toys galore were everywhere, and bare chest calendar men were selling the new 2002 calendar like hot

cakes. The volunteers were helpful and smiling all day long.

Across the land

Last Saturday night in Denver, Colorado, one of the highlights of the "Thunder" weekend was the Mr. and Ms. Rocky Mountain Leather contests. Frank Nowicki emceed, and moved the affair along with his usual humor. When it was all over, Brian Conway of Denver won the male title and Niccia Alexander won the female title.

Meanwhile in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, the inaugural Ms. Sunshine State Leather contest was taking place, with people from throughout the state arriving to witness the competition that will take the winner to Dallas on Labor Day weekend to compete for the hot new Ms. World Leather title.

Bob Graves (of Full Moon Saloon-Orlando fame) was the head judge and he reports the event was superb. When it was all over, the delightful Marilyn Z of Miami emerged the winner. The first runner-up was Miss Kay of Panama City, and the second runner-up was Natalie Hudson of Fort Lauderdale. Congratulations!

Coast to coast, the leather community had a wonderful weekend. You all were never lover. ▼

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Mark Mardon



Doyle of the Misfits at Maritime Hall, San Francisco, 2000

Rock art

Pretty much everything I do is queer, whatever my outward appearance says (and I'm not sure what it might say other than that I'm a middle-aged, white, more-or-less middle-class gay male who wears glasses and resists stuffed shirts). I'm always poking my nose into places that most responsible grown-ups avoid.

This Friday, August 3, I intend to poke my nose into Balazo / Mission Badlands for the opening reception of "Shots in the Dark," an exhibition featuring the work of six local rock-music photographers — Daesha Friedman, Gabriella Marks, Jasmine J. Jopling, Neil Motteram, Virgil Porter, and Debra Arlene Zeller — and the bands they love. It won't be a queer opening in the "I am an edgy art fag" sense, but if it rocks, and it's bent away from the mainstream, as far as I'm concerned, it's queer. Some bands are more bent than others — Rufus Wainwright, for instance — but any group that defies being straightjacketed qualifies for inclusion in the queer tribe, at least as special guests.

Rock music, when it's good, galvanizes audiences in a way no other music can or does. It delivers a primal energy rush, a releasing of Dionysian passions; while Mozart, Bach, and Brahms are good companions for sober, quiet times, for truly empowering music, one wants to be up close to the mosh pit when the heat is on, the bodies are fluid, and the music makes people want to be dolphins swimming in a sea of hands.

I'm not necessarily a fan of all the bands being photographically portrayed in "Shots in the Dark" — AC/DShe, Arab on Radar, Calxico, The Cure, Janes Addiction, The Locust, Melvins, The Misfits, Mos Def, Nishi Hihon, Primal Scream, Dee Dee Ramone, Shipping News, Rufus, et. al. — but that's beside the point. In this case, it's the look and feel of the band and their audiences that counts, not necessarily their music.▼

KUSF 90.3 FM presents "Shots in the Dark" from 8pm-midnight at Balazo/Mission Badlands, 2811 Mission St. (at 24th St.). Info: www.sfphotographers.com. Local band Caesura plays at 9:30pm.



"Angela, Candy Raver, CA," 1999, by Jona Frank, part of "Vivid" at SF Camerawork. See Tuesday.

Fri

848 Community Space

Hank Hyena and Danny Ryan present the "Hyena Comedy Showcase," featuring Scott Yeats, Steve Bush, Shannon Kokoska, Danny Ryan, Kristian Ruggieri, Frances Wallace, Holly Yeats Sandler, and Jorog C. Tho-biaz, all ex-students of Hank Hyena's Comic Monologue class at UC Berkeley Extension. Laugh 'till you pee. \$6. 8:30pm. 848 Divisadero. Info/tix: 643-8118.

Jon Sims Center for the Arts

AlRspace artist-in-residence Stephen Pelton of Stephen Pelton Dance Theater performs a new solo for himself entitled *all the roses falling*. . . The dance uses sound, movement, and images from the world of baseball to look at issues of gender, competition, wistfulness, Americana, and aging. A provocative foray into the ground of gender and the journey of a performer willing to transgress the gender divide in a location as American as baseball. Plus excerpts from The Hurdy Gurdy Man, an intimate, penetrating portrayal of Adolf Hitler. The movement material for the dance/theater piece was drawn largely from close analysis of archival film footage of Hitler, investigating the psycho-physical dimensions of this monument of history. \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLÖF). 8pm. 1519 Mission Street (at 11th St). Info: 554-0402; www.jonsimsctr.org

Diego Rivera Gallery, SF Art Institute

Opening reception: "Elder Arts Celebrations," the annual exhibition of artwork by

alumni, faculty, staff and students over the age of 65. 5:30-7:30pm. 800 Chestnut St. Info: 441-8221; www.sfmnh.org

Culture Cache Gallery

Opening reception: "Authentic," poster and sticker art by BLK/MRKT artists who plaster their work on telephone poles, building facades, freeway underpasses, skateboards and other locales. Featuring works by Shepard Fairey (founder of BLK/MRKT), Dave Kinsey, Evan Hecox, Amanda Ayala, and Justin Clark. Free. 7-11pm. 1800 Bryant St. (at 17th St), #104. Info: 626-7776; culturecache.com

Mission College, Santa Clara

"India Festival 2001," a three-day event expected to draw some 40,000 attendees, featuring Grand Marshal Miss World Priyanka Chopra, along with Evergreen film

star Jeetendra. Plenty of food, fashion, and dancing, culminated by a Grand India Day Parade on Sunday (2-4pm along Great America Parkway). Tonight: Gala Dance Competition (1-11pm; \$5). Saturday: Grand Fair (10am onwards; \$2); Gala Banquet (7pm; \$60). Also on Sunday: Grand Fair (10am onwards; \$2); Raas Garba Night with Ushma Vahia & Group (6pm; \$5). 3000 Mission College Blvd. Santa Clara. Info: (510) 249-9167; www.FIBAonline.com

Sat

SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoors lovers for a Pt. Reyes Sky Trail sunset hike and enjoy views of Drake's Bay and the tip of Pt. Reyes at sunset. After a climb up Mt. Whittenberg, the

group takes the Sky Trail to the ocean. It's a moderate 11-mile hike with a 1,800-ft. elevation gain. Meet 2:45pm under the large Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

Yerba Buena Gardens

AfroSolo Arts Festival VIII presents a free outdoor jazz concert featuring the soulful jazz diva Paula West (with Brad Buetho on guitar, John Witala on bass, Dave Tidball on Sax, and Eddy Marshall on drums), plus blues, jazz, gospel greets Fay Carol, Noah Griffin (with Vernon Alley), and Cedric Brown (with the LLSO Trio). Afro Solo Arts Festival is a celebration of African American artists giving voice to the Black experience. Free. 1-4pm. 701 Mission St. Info: 771-AFR0 (2376); www.afrosolo.org

Bridge Theatre

Peaches Christ hosts *Prom Night at the Bridge*, with a wild and crazy "Midnight Mass" screening of *Carrie*, directed by Brian De Palma. From the thriller by Stephen King. "They're all going to laugh at you!" warns the mother (Piper Laurie) of a tormented high school girl (Sissy Spacek) who discovers she has telekinetic powers and uses them to wreak havoc on her vicious classmates. With John Travolta, Amy Irving, William Katt, and Nancy Allen. Prom wear encouraged. \$7. Midnight. 3010 Geary Blvd. Info: 751-3213; peacheschrist.com

Jon Sims

Center for the Arts

San Francisco in Exile (SFInX) Live at the JSC presents "No Retreat: Dig Deep," a benefit for two queer artists facing eviction. Featuring: Marci Blackman, Bonfire Madigan, Justin Chin, Noe Venable, Shelley Doty, and others. SFInX is dedicated to the documentation and dissemination of SF's queer performing arts scene through digital media. \$10-\$20 sliding (NOTAFLÖF) 9:00pm. 1519 Mission St. (at 11th St). Info: 430-2161, ext. 1955; www.SFInX.org. Reservations strongly recommended.

Friend's Cafe

Opening reception: drawings by H. Fisher Raymond and paintings by Steve Bruce. Free. 8pm. 207 Valencia St. Info: 552-2725.

Everything Is . . .

Grand opening of Everything Is Pointless and Wonderful, a gallery by artists Sarah J. Curtiss (digital artwork) and William Solis (metallic works, paintings, prints, T-shirts). With audio sculpture by Doug Jacobs; fashions by Charina Cabanayan (evening wear) and Erin Watson

(corsets); live music by Willie and the Poor Boys (band) and Orin Henselyn (jazz saxophone). Opening runs two weekends, Aug. 4-5 and 11-12. 3901 18th St. (at Sanchez). Info: 865-0889; www.everythings-gallery.com

Cat Club

Opening night: "Thick," sexy, tribal, deep, dirty sounds by DJs Derek Juan (Metropolis; Universe), Steve Fabus (Metropolis; "Mama" LA), and Gray (Sushi Sundays; De-tour). This after-hours party for boys, girls, gay, straight, bi and try ("leave closed minds behind") happens every 1st Saturday of the month. \$10. 3:30am-10am. 21+w/ID. 1190 Folsom St. (at 8th St.). Advance tix at CD Record Rack (18th & Sanchez).

Club Townsend

"Universe" presents high house energy with stellar resident DJs Matthew Baker and David Harness, with guests from around the world. \$14. 9:30pm-7am. 21+w/ID. 177 Townsend (at 3rd St.). Info: 289-6650; clubuniverse.com

Sun

GLBT Historical Society

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society and *shellac* magazine: *Queerious People of Color* present an informal round-table on writers in queer people of color communities. Scheduled participants include Surina Kahn, Jason Luz, and Laura Johnson. The panel will be taped by East Bay cable access show Gayble TV. Free. Open to all. 2-4pm. 973 Market St., Suite 400. Info: 777-5455; www.glbthistory.org

Cafe Du Nord

Holy Titclamps presents "Boys Club: Queer Male Spoken Word," a literary sausage party hosted by Larry-bob, with featured readers Mario Balcitra (performer/singer/poet, published in the queer youth anthology *Revolutionary Voices*); Kevin Killian (poet/novelist/playwright, author of *Argento Series*; *Arctic Summer*; *Shy Bedrooms Have Windows*) and Kirk Read (from his forthcoming book *How I Learned to Snap*, about growing up gay in the South). Bring one piece of prose, poetry or whatever to read (not more than five minutes). Why? Because there is far too little for homosexual men to do in this town that is not disco dancing. \$3. 3pm. 2170 Market St. (btwn Church & Sanchez). Info: 861-5016; www.holytitclamps.com/boysclub

Sadie's Flying Elephant

"K'vetsh," a monthly Queer Open Mike (every first Sunday of the month) hosted by '97 road veteran Sara Seiberg and roadie extraordinaire Sash Sunday. The show welcomes boys and girls, although the performers tend to be mostly chicks. Sissy Spit veteran Brian Whitty is clamoring for more boys so don't be shy. It's a huge load of fun in your pants, so come on down! \$1. 9pm. 491 Potrero (on the corner of Mariposa).

Stern Grove

Stern Grove Festival presents an afternoon of dance featuring the San Francisco Ballet in its only free Bay Area summer appearance. The program includes highlights from the company's 2001 season and tour, including Act II of *Swan Lake* and excerpts from Act III of *The Sleeping Beauty*.



Scott Yeats cuts loose with yucks at "Hyena Comedy Showcase" at 848 Community Space. See Friday.



"Closing In," a night of dance at Venue 9. See Thursday.

both choreographed by SF Ballet Artistic Director Helgi Tomasson (after Marius Petipa), and set to the music of Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Plus *Symphony in Three Movements*, with choreography by George Balanchine and music by Igor Stravinsky. Free. 2pm (arrive real early to claim picnic space). Info: 252-6252; www.sterngrove.org

Club 220

"Jon Sugar's Birthday Party and Show," an appreciation of the outrageous comedian who founded GAWK (Gay Artists and Writers Collective) 15 years ago, bringing together many queer musicians, comics, writers, DJs, MC's and others for community events. Free to youth groups, students, faeries, Haight Street queers, neighbors and friends. 5pm. 220

Jones St. Info: 731-2424.

Club Townsend

"Pleasuredome" pleases the men and boys every Sunday night, with the head-splaining sounds of DJs Neil Lewis (every first Sun.) and Jeff Johnson (every third Sun.). \$8. 9pm-3:30am. 21 + w/D. 177 townsend (at 3rd St.). Info: 289-6699; pleasuredomesf.com

BATS Center, Fort Mason Center

"The 7th Annual BATS Improv Festival" continues with a special appearance by Keith Johnstone, the inventor of TheatreSports. As a champion

of improvisational theater, Johnstone has revolutionized and legitimized the study and performance of improvisation world-wide. Johnstone also invented the Life-Game, Gorrilla Theatre, and Micetro. He has written many plays and is the author of *Impro*, a best-selling book on improvisation. \$10. 8pm. Center for Improvisational Theatre, Bayfront Theater Bldg. B. Info: 474-8935; www.improv.org

SF Camerawork

Opening reception: "Vivid: Photographs by Camerawork Members," featuring a broad range of contemporary work, from the probing images of

family by L. Jessamyn Lovell and the painterly landscapes of Seth Dickerman to the extensive survey of American youth by Jona Frank. Juried by Kevin Chen (Intersection for the Arts), Marnie Gillett (SF Camerawork), Michael Shapiro (Shapiro Gallery, SF), and Rose Shoshana (RoseGallery, Santa Monica). Free. 5-8pm. 1246 Folsom St. Info: 863-1001; www.sf-camerawork.org

Theatre Rhinoceros

"Make It So" Productions presents "Viva Variety XVIII," an old-style variety show highlighting the best in gay and "gay-friendly" entertainment in the Bay Area, this month a benefit for the STOP AIDS Project. Featuring an all-star cast including singer/songwriter Garrin Benfield, comedienne Regina Stoops, performance artist Gregangelo, lyric soprano Don Tatro, magician Christian Minchillo, performance artists Chris March (as Shirley Temple) and Matthew Martin, VV regular Peggy L'Eggs with Allison Hennessy, Mark Sargent as Ethel Merman, and other special guests. Hosted by Steve Murray. \$20. 8pm. 2926 16th St. (at S. Van Ness). Tix/info: 863-0741, ext. #2.

Club Eros

"Ride Right on the Edge," a workshop to do and learn tantric masturbation. Reach higher consciousness and the most intense stimulation possible. Free. 7-9:30pm (door closes at 7:30 or when room is full, whichever comes first). 2051 Market St. Info/ground rules: sacredtool@yahoo.com

Wed

Museum of Craft & Folk Art

Opening reception: "Shibori: Tradition and Innovation—East to West," an exhibition of Japanese traditional kimonos and recent fashion innovations in shibori, a dyeing method long associated with clothing such as the kimono. Artists and dyers present provocative works that collapse the boundaries between textiles, art, and fashion. 5-7pm. Fort Mason Center, Bldg. A. Info: 775-0991; www.mocfa.org

Thu

Venue 9

Women On The Way (WOW), produced by Mary Alice Fry, presents "Closing In," a shared evening of dance theater featuring works by up-and-coming choreographers Shona Curley, Monique Jenkinson, and Erika Shuch. \$12-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 9th St. (btwn Folsom & Howard). Tix/info: 289-2000; www.venue9.com

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send event listings to:

Mark Mardon
Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Email:
Calendare@aol.com



"Passing Through," collage, 12" x 12", by Ruth Terrill, part of "Elder Arts Celebrations" at SF Art Institute. See Friday.



SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2001 AT 7:30PM

Queen of the World 2001

Palace of Fine Arts ★ 3301 Lyon Street ★ San Francisco

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True Stories from Real People about Sex, Love, and Life

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Starring **John Fisher** and Featuring **Ronnie Larsen**

Featuring: Leon Acord, Brian Benston, Jeffrey Hartgraves,
Jayson Matthews, Alan Quismorio, Jared Scott, Drew Todd & Aaron Wimmer

Due to Popular Demand...we have MOVED and
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Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. San Francisco
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BAR TALK



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PARTING GLANCES

USF Dinner 5/16 St. Francis
Chatted with you at elevator, Elmer. Would like to see you for a drink-John ☎ 71427

~Steamworks 6/16 Cute Asian~
Casey- you came into my room, had great time- you came back as I was leaving- Wish I'd given my phone #. Would like encounter- Me- older bottom, grey hair- Call. ☎ 71428

Red Grill Sunday 6/10
You, handsome, tattoos on arms, corner table against wall. Me, same side of next table. Didn't turn to stare, but took you in just the same. Would like better look. ☎ 71429

Dave Orange Twist Smirnoff 6/25
I served you that drink on Gay Pride Sunday. We talked, but would of liked to talk later. Can we talk & meet. ☎ 71430

"You Are Sooo Cute!" I Said As...
I stood next to your seat on F Market Line 6/24 Sun afternoon. I got off, at Powell. You blew me a kiss! Let's talk! ☎ 71439

Officer Bill
Pride Parade 6/24. We spoke a few times. You: getting your wisdom teeth pulled. Me: offered post op drinks. Interested? (I am.) ☎ 71440

Gave You My Number At Reunion
You wore a white t-shirt, gave you my card. Montgomery, St. Muni 6/26, you ask me about my weekend. Would love to talk. Call. ☎ 71441

Cute Latin Busboy
July 3-Harvey's Cafe Soma- Me Blik w/2 guys, girl eating. You have a beautiful smile & eyes. Missed opportunity to say hi, would like to meet you. ☎ 71460

June 10th, Supershuttle
You- attending friend's wedding in Africa via Amsterdam. Asked about Bernal Hts. Me business trip in Az. Discussed changes in S.F. Pleasant conversation. Coffee? Dinner? ☎ 71461

(Joe) Of Alameda, In SF..
We met at the gym. I told you how beautiful you were. I gave you my phone number. My dream is to hear from you. Your eyes were so intense. ☎ 71462

Last Thursday Morning- July 12.
Where: Sanchez and 18th street. You: blond man. Me: tall, good build, WM, glasses. We spoke in front of your house. Let's talk again. ☎ 71478

Coliseum Airport Bart
From Powell street. Sunday, July 8, 10pm. Sat behind you. You spoke on disembarking, gray sweater. Me: motorcycle jacket. Wanna connect on same level? ☎ 71479

July 1 Most Fabulous Story
You: Dark hair, purple shirt, white pants. Me: blonde hair, white sweater, black jeans. We checked each other out/ smiled several times. I think you're really cute. Coffee, drinks, dinner? ☎ 71459

N'Touch Sun 7/15 You: Slim Asian
N w/glasses and little stache & goatee, dancing w/friends. Me: tank top, GWM, playing pool. I like the way you move. You smiled back. Let's meet! ☎ 71508

Alan With Two Great Dances
I met you July 5th @ 12th Howard getting coffee. You caught me staring when you walked away. Been back looking for those blue eyes. Me 6'2", 180lbs. Tattoos. ☎ 71509

Asian, Black Gap T-Shirt N'Touch
Then @ Universe (7/14). Asked you to dance, but you were w/friend. Me: blond, gray sleeveless t-shirt. Would like to meet and get to know you. You're cute! ☎ 71510

Sparky's Happy Hour 6/23 8pm
You sitting alone under "The Gay Johnnie Sign", me sent a beer over to you. At a dollar each, I'd like to buy you three more. ☎ 71463

Ron, Club Asia Pride Week 6/22
You: White with gray shirt. Me: Asian with black tee shirt. We chat about Bangkok. Please call, I would love to see you again. ☎ 71511

AIDS Walk: Cute In Bof A Shirt
You were with Asian friend in Schwab shirt, I was sitting nearby on grass. We exchanged glances and smiles more than a few times. Let's talk. ☎ 71512

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Lonely? Looking For A Friend?
Shy GWM, 57, 5'10", 165# in San Francisco looking for companionship with another man who may or may not have the same problem getting to know other people. ☎ 71431

GWM Seeking LTR
Attractive 43, 6'4", 195 poz in-shape looking for a GAM 30 to 50 to date or more? I am low maintenance, nonsense, honest and easy going. Hobbies include traveling, cooking, foreign film, theater and the outdoors. Let's meet and see if we click. ☎ 71442

ISO Regular Suck Buddy
WM 5'10", 170#, 7" uncult, HIV-, disease free, non smoker, ISO White, Latino, Asian, North Bay a plus. ☎ 71484

GWM Seeks GAM
Attractive, warm, friendly 36 years old GWM seeks 35 to 55yo Japanese, Chinese or Korean for dating. Gentlemen with glasses preferred. Please call. ☎ 71443

Sexy Top Seeks Hot Bottom
Masculine, passionate, lean, HIV-, GWM, 40, 6', 170lbs, is looking for an enthusiastic, in-shape (slim to muscular), HIV-, bottom, 25-45, any race for regular, intense, safe fucking. ☎ 71444

HIV+, Blacks, Latins, Puerto Ricans
Wanted by HIV+, blond/blue, 5'10", 160lbs. versatile bottom, 44yrs. genuinely honest & loving, in good shape, no fat guys. You be similar. I live near Chico, I'm willing to travel, please call me. ☎ 71445

Buffed 26 Horny Orlando Stud
Visiting SF July 20- Aug. 30. Looking for guys into rubber butt banging. You be: 18-36 buffed versatile, hard, and insatiable. ☎ 71464

Spanish Lover
Wild, Charming, Romantic, Scandinavian desires 24-44 Latin guy. Hot blue eyes smile, moustache. Slim, physically fit. 40. Not a games/bars player. Snuggly. ☎ 71465

"Are You Out There!"
Me: 33, 6', 160# HIV- attractive, healthy enjoy movies, dinner and trying new things. I'm simple no drama, no drugs. You same let's meet. ☎ 71467

Seeking Life Partner
Professional Mediterranean man, 33, 6', 150, blk, bnn seeks mature monogamous mate. Romantic, well travelled and communicative, seeking same. Let's build a life together. N/S, N/D, no bar scene. ☎ 71480

It Just Might Work
Me: GLM HIV+ dark skin/ eyes/hair. I'm 33, 165#, 5'8" bottom wanted: GWM between 35-45 hairy. No drugs. Maybe long term relationship. ☎ 71481

Fun-Loving GAM ISO Latino/Asian
For friendship, sex, possibly more! Prefer skinny to slim, age not important. I'm 5'7", 129, easy going with a big heart. Love foreplay, kissing, cuddling & sensual touch. ☎ 71487

U/C Boy To Train Not Tame
Demanding dad will train not tame serious submissive U/C man boy(s) your fantasies become our reality. Thru submissive become proud-loyal-ty- alive. Serious/only. U/C a must. ☎ 71482

Find Latin Man
Handsome Mediterranean looking 49, 5'7", 155 an in great shape. Artists, fun loving celebrates life. HIV+, sensual good kisser, vers/bottom. Theater, movies, outdoors, lets dine an more. ☎ 71483

Lonely Cute 37 Yrs. Old Latin
Ht-5'07 wt-155. bnn skin rough look, but sweet versatile. Looking 4 GWM/ GLM/ GAM, slim, short small build. smooth, size no important. If interested call please. ☎ 71485

Chubby Chaser Alert
Hot fem bottom pussy boy, young 48 Caucasian- Latin musician in committed relationship with understanding woman. ISO, hot dominant HIV-top, under 40 for possible LTR. ☎ 71486

Horny Old Fart Seeks Similar
SF GWM 65, 6, 176 HIV- into J/O, nips, cock sucking and rimming seeks similar in the City. Prefer ht, wt, at least, somewhat proportional. ☎ 71513

Life Is Very Short I Am Very Hungry
& for true relationship. Me: 40yrs old, 5'8", 145# attractive slim, athletic, Japanese seeks SGWM 45-55yrs old- must be honest sincere. Lots of humor for ltr/monogamous-oriented. You little chubby. Serious only. ☎ 71514

Looking For A Friend
Shy GWM, 57, 5'10", 165# in San Francisco looking for a companion in the city, to do things with. Enjoy movies, hiking, classical music, computers, dining out and your interests. ☎ 71515

Chubby GWM 66 5'8", 185lbs HIV-
Brown/blue retired enjoys: sitcoms, walks, movies, tv, music, quiet time at home, conversation, theatre, kissing, cooking, hiking, hugging. N/S, N/D I drink. If you like these things, call me please. Be serious. No games. ☎ 71466

~Come And Dream With Me~
Health Haw/Filp 42 5'5" 145 smooth HIV+ btm. Seeking masculine top. For friendship, romance and hot nasty sex too. I'm good hearted, romantic, affection, sensitive but strong, responsible & relationship oriented. Great parts of life are movies, music, and travelling and great sex. N/S, N/D. So if you are masc: top- man in shape or stocky, built (lumpy old) 5'7" up and 35-50yrs. Let's cuddle and dream together. Sorry no games played let's leave them for PacBell Park. LTR possible. ☎ 71468

Poz Bottom For 40+ Leather Top
Seeking ltr with in-shape leather top/daddy who loves cockworship, asplay, B&D, and taking care of his good boy. I'm 48, 6', 145, br/br, smooth, 100% bottom, HIV+. ☎ 71516

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Anonymous Deep Throat Head
BI WM HIV- 40's dominant very masculine likes getting off down an expert deep throat in dark private places if your HIV- submissive in shape and hungry. ☎ 71432

I Want Asian Piss!
Seeking horny Asian & Latin dudes in their 20's and 30's who like to pee on a cute White boy, early 30's. You can drain yourself in my mouth. ☎ 71433

Milkman Lookin For Good Gumjib
If you're a 'toothless tiger' and can deep-throat a big head while 'gummin' the base of a thick shaft, I'm your man. 6', 170, 43, laid-back man. Long chew sessions of real turn on! ☎ 71434

Weekday Morning JO 8am 12n
Looking for men to stroke with or just watch/help me with my morning load. I like tiwork, spanking, fantasies. You be 40-60 verbal/nasty. I'm 40 HIV+ nasty. Let's play! ☎ 71435

Seeking Asian Top
Under 40 cute smooth clean shaven for W/BI curious goodlooking 1st timers start orally, end given you virgin bottom for your pleasure. ☎ 71446

Oral Massage, Muscle Rub
Complete oil rub down and oral release (no charge) to muscle boys who want tension relief, small endowment ok. ☎ 71447

"Just Shut Up And Ride!"
WM 36, 5'10" 195lb blond/blue muscle hunk, wants good looking masculine men to screw me or be screwed, anytime. ☎ 71448

2 Uncut Men Masculine
Blue collar 8 plus looking for big and uncut for serious sex afternoons. ☎ 71470

BAR TALK

PERSONALS ARE FREE!

CATEGORY

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Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

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Spread-Eagle

Ex-wrestler now older at 44 still in decent shape. Tied to your bed for long milking sessions, I'll flex, writhe, sweat in response to efforts of your tongue & hands, turns ons: pees, tilts, hairy pits. Mutual great. ☎ 71449

Hot Horny Hung And Handsome
I like variety taller short sizeable cocks or horse hung top to bottom mutual oral sex or laid back service. Shaved cocks are fun too! ☎ 71450

Hairy Hung Uncut
W. male slim hairy 7ins, uncut 54yr HIV- seeks W male slim HIV-who likes to suck uncut cock and hairy ass. ☎ 71451

GWM Bottom Wanted
By smart sexy hot & cute GAM top 35, 5'7", 155#, great shape. Like to get rimmed, be slim or beefy. Under 45 with 7" or large. No fats. ☎ 71452

Hairy Ver Top Man Fuck Buddy
Gay or Bi WM average size/looking wanted. Me: GWM 150# 5'8" hairless; mid 40, 7" cut into dick, ball, ass, WS, clothing play & most other interest. ☎ 71453

ISO Rim Seat Service
Older hung daddy, solid tight bod small cute ass. Any age but must be extremely talented & insatiable. No beginners, no scat please. Long sessions A+. ☎ 71454

Join The Klub!!
Thank guys for a wonderful time! Let's do another, adding more to the crowd. We're looking for interesting men who are into having a wonderful time getting nasty and for play. Masculine, buff, toned, well defined, no attitude, and good sense of humor. No judging here! If interested leave name, #, best time to call. Maybe you can join the Klub too. Restrictions do apply. ☎ 71436

Man To Man
I wish to have vigorous sex with another man in the early afternoons (best). I like it physically but open to all. Inquire. ☎ 71471

Cock Worship
After your gym workout I will service. You kickback, cock and balls sucked. Celebrate and enjoy your masculinity. You be between 20-45 in good health. Call me. ☎ 71472

Seeking Another Healthy Libido
SPGWM, 42, 177/6, athletic, cute, hairy, br/br, clean, HIV-neg, strong libido, romantic & very horny, d/s, companion, WM, attractive, clean, hung & HIV-neg for blow & rim regularly in S.F. ☎ 71499

Anonymous Deep Throat Head
Bi WM HIV- 40s dominant very masculine likes getting off down an expert deep throat in dark private places if your HIV- submissive in shape and hungry. ☎ 71494

"Good Dog!"
58, lanky, positive, mix breed wants deep throat suck hounds. 9" dick needs long service and nips too. Your place. ☎ 71473

Fucking Only
Black male great body and uncut cock seeks smooth bottom for fucking on Fridays and Saturdays nights. HIV+, no drugs, hardcore, non-verbal, 5'10", 180#, 43. ☎ 71474

Homeless Sex
Want some? Market St. regular, hairy chest, hazel eyes & big shoulders, dark red facial hair, smooth small butt. Let's have safe fun, togetherness etc. ☎ 71475

Boy
Attractive, intelligent foot lover, 32 seeks naturally masculine innately dominant men who enjoy devoted sensual attention to their needs. Prefer tall, good-natured dads with large feet. All calls returned. ☎ 71476

Expert Cocksucker For 3-Way
2 oversexed party n play sexpigs, looking for 3rd for weekend pnp sessions. ☎ 71469

Honest, Sexy, Working GWM
40. Loves life, self, sex. Sense of humor? Adventure? Casual to committed encounters. ☎ 71477

I Want To Get Laid
Tall, GWM, 40's, bi/bl, bottom ISO hung top into anal play, nipples, no attitude, and good sense of humor. No judging here! If interested leave name, #, best time to call. Maybe you can join the Klub too. Restrictions do apply. ☎ 71436

The Glamorous Life
Gym fit young man in need of generous gentleman who can show me the good life. ☎ 71489

Tall Cute Blond Artist
Type needs support from generous man to get through some tough times. ☎ 71490

Top Seeks Latin Bottom
Built, trim, 6' 165lb. top. Athletic, healthy, HIV+, muscular top 47y.o. seeks trim, fit Latin bottom for cuddling and steady sex. ☎ 71491

East Bay Hot Latin
Looking for mature, sincere males for good times. Am mature, 5'8", 155, versatile, HIV-, as you must be. Your age/race/looks not important. ☎ 71492

Make Me Your Bitch
W/M 40, ISO macho man 325+ # tatts+ very fat cock to strip me naked and have rough and hard sex, verbal abuse ex-con A+. ☎ 71493

Beautiful Material Boy!
Intelligent, handsome, 29yo GWM w/who body and class ISO wealthy, HIV- stud who is generous. I love shopping, travel, night life, conversation, the arts, hot sex, and valuable gifts. Serious inquiries only. ☎ 71495

Hairy? Muscular? Celtic?
Mature SF GWM with oral talents to please seeks masculine man of Celtic background 30+ (straight, married preferred) who enjoys kicking back for admiration and servicing. ☎ 71496

Brian Patrick Carmichael
Makes me hot. If you have his look/middleage, husky build, moustache, tell this hung, freaky Black daddy what turns you on. ☎ 71497

Be My Sweet Hairy Daddy
GWM, 42, 180#, romantic, 7"uncut, hairy, seeks extremely hairy daddy types 40-60 for romance and fun. Must be outgoing and affectionate. ☎ 71498

Butt Play For You
I want to look at, touch, squeeze, massage, tickle, spank, eat, pube & screw your butt. Me: GWM, 45, 6'5", 300lbs. You: GM (White, Asian, Latin), slim, nice buns. ☎ 71500

I Want To Watch
A younger guy getting stripped, humiliated, abused, or brutally f--d. I'm 48, trim, verbal, 5'10", 155. ☎ 71501

Spread Your Cheeks
E.Bay GWM, 52, ISO Indian or Iranian with hairy buns to be rimmed. No recip. No perfumes. Married, ok. Sit on my face. 25-40yr. ☎ 71502

Offering Virgin Bottom
To smooth clean shaven Asian under 40 who's patient gentle experienced teacher to make me cry with pleasure W/B/M, needs slow pumping leading to hard pounding. Give it to me. ☎ 71503

2 Pnp Butch Men Need 3rd
Two hot oversexed men, 50/ versatile and 57, ex-marine top need versatile or top for weekend pnp. sessions! ☎ 71504

Ride On My Bushy Mustache
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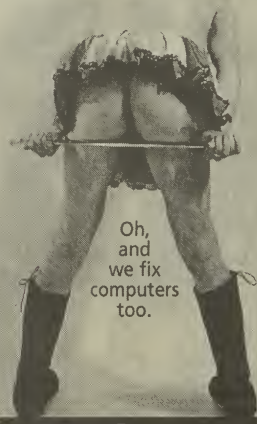
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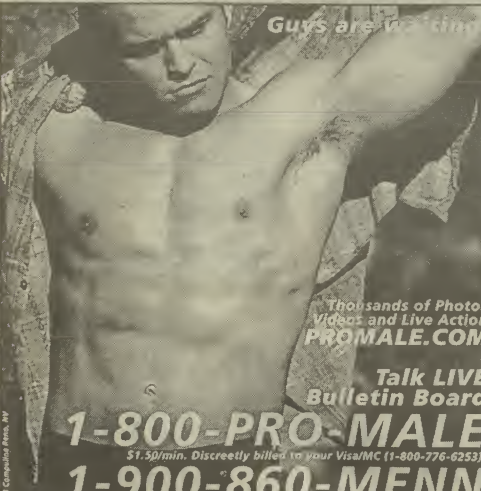
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Chambermaid in Wonderland

Buñuel films out on DVD

by Gary Morris

Despite his godlike status as one of cinema's great artists and rebels, Luis Buñuel has only recently arrived on DVD. Criterion has just released two of his features, one in the high middle ground of his achievement (*Diary of a Chambermaid*), the other an Oscar-winner that many feel is his greatest film (*Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie*). There's also a DVD of the 1928 French version of *The Fall of the House of Usher*, on which Buñuel served briefly as assistant director. Since he walked out during production, authorship has rightly been assigned to its main director, Jean Epstein.

The appearance of *Diary of a Chambermaid* between two of Buñuel's more avant-garde works, *The Exterminating Angel* (1962) and *Simon of the Desert* (1965), must have surprised both his detractors, who condemned his dizzying combination of absurdist humor, eroticism, anticlericalism, and social critique, and his fans, who loved him for these same qualities. Unlike these bracketing films, *Diary* is a relatively straightforward narrative based on a classically structured turn-of-the-century novel by Octave Mirbeau, of *Torture Garden* fame. It recalls some of Buñuel's more heavily plotted melodramas of the early-'50s Mexican period — *A Woman Without Love*, *El Bruto*, etc. Still, it's unmistakably, satisfyingly Buñuelian under its polished narrative, conventionally credible characters, and realistic backdrop of the French countryside.

Célestine (Jeanne Moreau) is a worldly domestic from Paris hired to work at an estate in provincial France in the 1930s. That all's not quite right in the country is quickly evident when the driver who transports her, Joseph (Georges Géret), makes suggestive remarks, which, typical of Buñuel women, she takes note of without being obviously offended. Her employers, seemingly standard-issue bourgeoisie on the surface, soon present to her a startling array of curious behaviors.

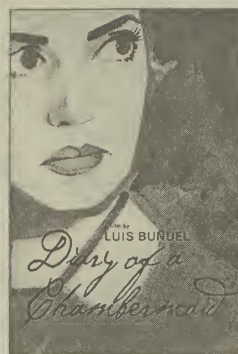
The mistress of the house, Madame Montiel (Françoise Lugagne), is far more interested in

the museum-quality *objets d'art* in her house than in her horny husband. When she isn't polishing her urns, she's busy conducting inexplicable chemistry experiments that at least one reviewer interpreted as some kind of douche kit to prevent her husband from being attracted to her. Monsieur Montiel (Michel Piccoli) spends most his time knocking up servant girls, a plan he immediately tries with the indifferent Célestine. After grilling the newcomer ("Do you break things? Do you keep clean?"), Madame Montiel advises her to accede to the "whims" of her aged father, Monsieur Rabour (Jean Ozenne). "Whimsical" is one word for this comic old pervert, who goes from admiring a butterfly to blasting it with a shotgun in a startling early scene. He's also an unrepentant fetishist, luring Célestine to strut through his room in dominatrix boots while he drools over her calves.

Grotesqueries galore

Part of the film's story is Célestine's adaptation to this decadent world, but there's much more going on than the gallery of grotesques suggests. *Diary* posits her as a threat to the insularity of the Monteils and their rapid way of life, a threat Moreau coolly limns in one of her most nuanced, restrained performances. But the film also suggests that she may be a climber, strategizing on how best to move from maid to mistress. She resists, indeed triumphs over, every assault on her, which in the case of Monsieur Rabour takes the form of an overt attempt to strip away her very identity: "I'll call you Marie," he says. "I've called all my chambermaids Marie. It's a habit of mine. And not one I think I can break." Célestine can also be read as a more complex and modernized version of Susana, the title character of Buñuel's 1950 melodrama about another, more obviously perverse interloper from the lower classes to the upper.

Diary kicks into high gear with a disturbing sequence, the rape and murder of a little girl whom Célestine has befriended. This event has the grim atmosphere of a fairy tale, specifically *Little Red Riding Hood*, with the girl dressed in a hooded coat, gathering mush-



rooms in the woods. It also occasions some powerfully weird imagery, particularly a shot of a snail crawling over the dead girl's body as she lies in the forest. Célestine suspects Joseph, the family's driver, who turns out to be a committed Fascist. Her courting of Joseph in order to trap him into confessing is one of *Diary*'s most unsettling elements, as Buñuel keeps the viewer constantly guessing about her motives, with the suggestion that she may in fact be attracted to this butcher.

Buñuel's anticlerical strain is happily evident here as a minor motif in the form of a clueless priest, played by co-screenwriter Jean-Claude Carrière, who yells "Goddammit!" and lectures Madame Montiel on the sinfulness of enjoying sex. The director's anti-Fascist impulses are also given play. He changed the time of the novel from the early 20th-century to the '30s to show that the combination of bourgeois absurdity and dark human nature (as incarnated in the loathsome Joseph) provides fertile ground for the growth of Fascism. Despite such serious elements — which are buttressed by the film's clean, crisp, always believable atmosphere — there's plenty of black humor throughout. The playful Buñuel even gets a brief personal revenge on the French police chief who censored *Un Chien Andalou* years earlier when Joseph, witnessing a Fascist parade, repeatedly screams that censor's name.

While neither as ambitious nor as absurdist as some of his more acclaimed films, *Diary* is still a worthy entry in the Buñuel canon, particularly in the DVD's pristine widescreen (Franscop) transfer. The black-and-white imagery shimmers on the screen in this digitally restored print. Included are a video interview with frequent Buñuel collaborator Jean-Claude Carrière; the transcript of a late-'70s interview with the director; the original theatrical trailer, narrated by Jeanne Cocteau; and improved English subtitles. ▼

Henry Moore

◀ page 32

at the British Museum, but there are bits of Brancusi and Ben Nicholson present as well.

Moore's signature big-bodied, small-headed figures evolve in the 1940s, alongside the works which propelled him into the public consciousness, the *Shelter* drawings. During World War II, Londoners gathered in tube stations as safe spaces during blackouts and the Blitz, and Moore was present to record the grim scenes as an "official war artist." Rows of sleeping civilians huddle together in dim subway light, awaiting the all-clear. In the creepy artificial illumination of his chalk drawings, the figures appear less like human beings than the plaster casts of corpses in Pompeii. That is the

most interesting aspect of Moore's drawings: the figures always appear to be statues, not human beings. Whether drawing toward sculpture or drawing from life, Moore was always first and foremost a sculptor.

A life-long Leftist, carrying on the Labor tradition of his coal-mining family, Moore was vocally anti-Franco, although he visited Spain only once, shortly before the Civil War. Several works of art reflect his Republican leanings, and the eerie bronze *Helmet Heads* beginning in 1939, and continuing for a decade, are among the strongest and least well-known works in the exhibition. They presage his internal-external forms of the 1950s, which wrap around each other like a head in a helmet.

It is a pleasure to observe the artist in a more relaxed mode as

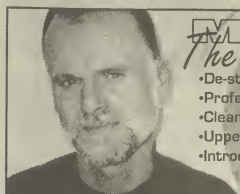
he enters his sunset years. There is a whimsical elephant drawing from 1977, and a double view of his own feet from 1979. But he has not lost the touch. Even in later life, Moore's work stays on the high plateau which it had reached by mid-century. Virtually every sculpture and drawing in the exhibition is derived from the human figure. But the stacked totems of the 1950s, and the later, sensuous arches (for example, the superb *Arch Form* of 1970) extrapolate human shapes to such an extent that only the essence is present, and these are his most inspiring works. ▼

Henry Moore: Sculpting the 20th Century, through Sept. 16 at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, SF. Info: (415) 863-3330.

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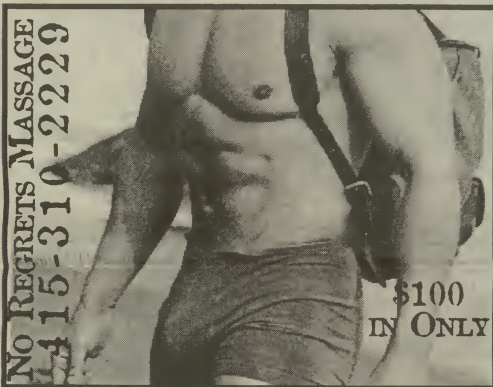
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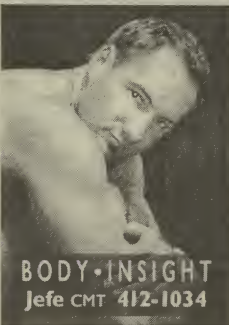


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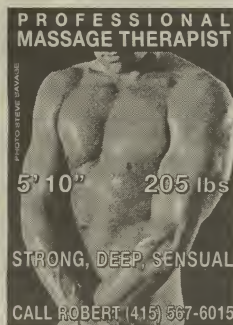



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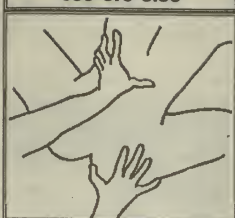
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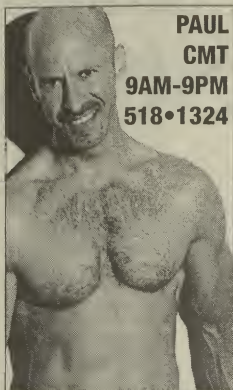
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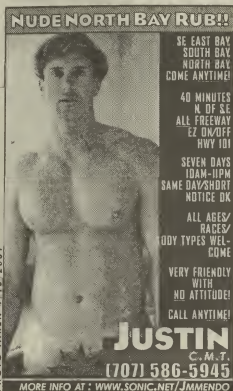
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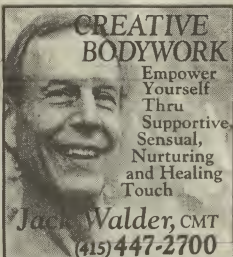
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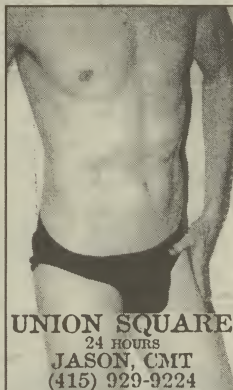
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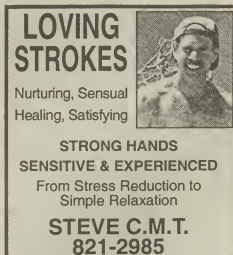
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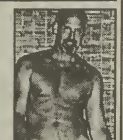
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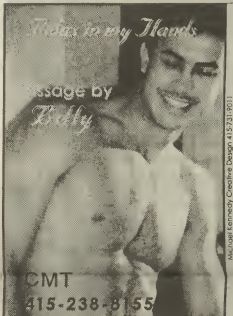
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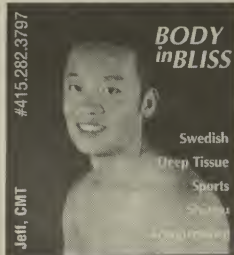
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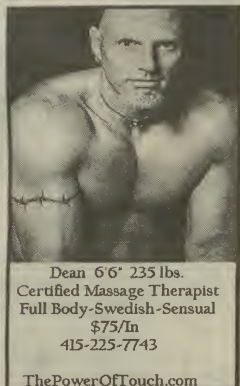
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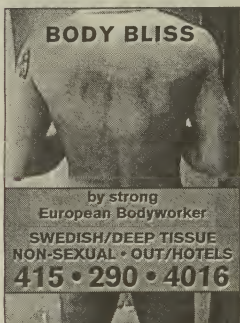


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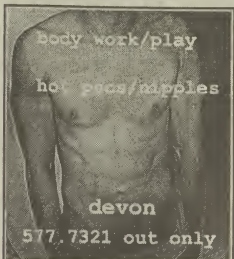
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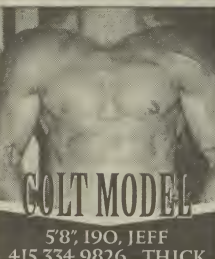
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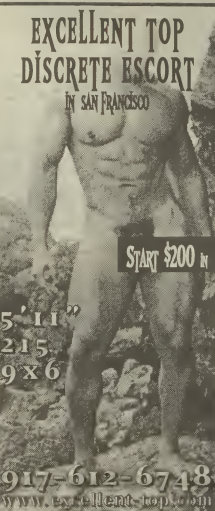
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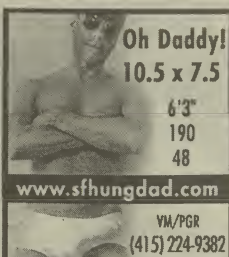
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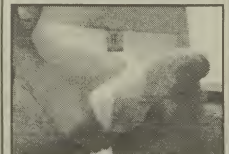


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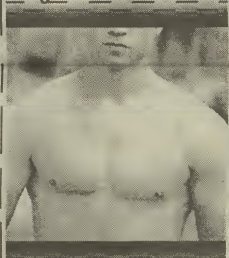
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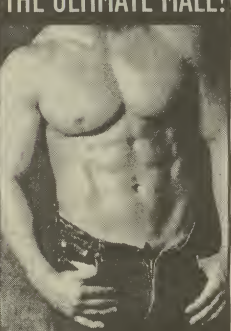


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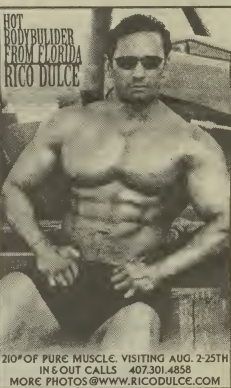
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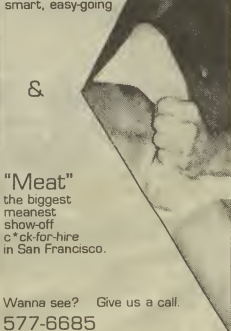
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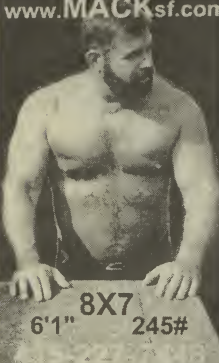
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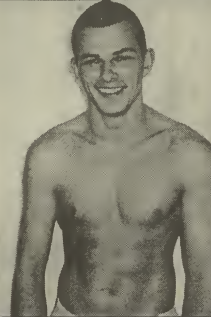
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Expiration Date
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